

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

OF

## Politics and General Literature.

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### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—801—

#### Politics of Europe.

Yesterday's Report announced the arrival of the Ship *ELIZA*, R. Gibson, from the Isle of France via Madras; and that of Sunday, the *CARRON*, Thomas Cartley, from Bombay and Madras, having left the latter on the 23d instant: conveying to this Presidency the Honorable Sir Anthony Buller, Paines Judge, with several other Passengers, whose names are given under the usual head.

From the "COUNCIL OF TEN," an able periodical publication lately established, we to-day give an extract on the character of the London *JOHN BULL*. In directing the attention of our readers to this powerfully written article, we request them to recollect the rise and progress of the system of which that Paper has been the principle champion. Soon after it was established in London, for the purpose of attacking the private character of all who should oppose the errors or abuses of the existing administration, other publications on the same principle were supported in other parts of the empire. Glasgow had its "SENTINEL," Edinburgh its "BEACON" and "CORRESPONDENT," and nothing would serve—but Calcutta must have her *JOHN BULL*. The verdicts of British Juries, or the decisions of English Judges, have already stamped these publications, with their true character; and the infamy which the *COUNCIL OF TEN* has poured out on the Ringleader of the herd, will tend still farther to reduce them to their proper level in the eyes of the world. The *Calcutta BULL* was not contented with adopting the name and quoting the sentiments of its London namesake which has been declared a scandal to the English nation; but pursued a course exactly similar in attacking individuals in this country whom it thought proper to hunt down and proscribe; so that our readers will find the arguments used by the *COUNCIL OF TEN* so applicable to the case lately argued before the Supreme Court and to the defence of calumny and proscription generally. But there is another reason for publishing this article: The *BULL* continues to cull the most objectionable parts of that disgraceful publication for the amusement of its readers. While this moral poison (or "pepper and salt" as he may choose to term it) is thus wantonly diffused, we think it incumbent on us to administer an antidote. To show that the system of attacking female character so strongly denounced, is persevered in to the last, we may instance the "goaded article" as *JOHN BULL* calls it, published in that Paper yesterday containing an attack on Lady Morgan as the supposed writer of a description of an execution in France. Yet instead of being present at the scene, she was we understand in another kingdom!

In the *MADRAS COURIER* received yesterday, we find it stated that his Majesty's Sloop *SOPHIE*, had captured a piratical vessel in the Persian Gulph. From the same Paper we copy the following appropriate observations on the threatened invasion of Spain.

*Madras Courier*, April 15, 1823.—We are still unable to resolve the great Political question which now agitates the public mind; but we have it in our power to lay before the reader some additional information relating to Spain and Portugal that cannot fail of being acceptable at the present period, as it will assist in enabling the politician to form a correct opinion upon the state of affairs in Europe.

The latest accounts from the Continent, universally agree in representing the eagerness of the *Ultra Royalists* for War; and there can be no doubt, as we have before had occasion to observe, that the infatuated King of France has finally resolved to gratify those imbeciles, who surround him, by invading Spain for the purpose of restoring the tyranny and superstitions of that ornament of Royalty, FERDINAND the Seventh.

Thus France after having openly favoured the rebels of Spain—after having supplied with money and ammunition those infamous bands of Monks and robbers, which have so long disturbed the tranquillity of the Provinces and involved them in all the horrors of civil War—finding all her shameful efforts unsuccessful and the Constitution daily gaining strength and consistency—has determined to hazard a War, which is believed to have laid the foundation for the downfall of the mighty NAPOLEON. The Continental Monarchs have eagerly encouraged the unrighteous cause, and it is certain that the four greater Powers have in defiance of the warnings and remonstrances of Great Britain pledged themselves to support it with their united force, if necessary. The Spaniards have shewn a proper contempt for the blusterings and threats of these members of the Holy Alliance, and War therefore would appear to be inevitable—the only way in which the threatened evil can be averted, is for Spain to accede to the shameful terms dictated by France as the price of her forbearance; but of this there is scarcely a probability. The heads of these moderate demands, were given in Friday's Supplement, but as they are of great importance in considering the present question we briefly repeat them here lest they should escape the observation of any of our readers. The three first and sixth articles amount to nothing less than the entire destruction of the Constitution, the abolition of the Cortes, and the restoration of the despotism which existed previous to the glorious establishment of the Cortes.

"1. The restoration of the King to his personal freedom, without delay; for it is now distinctly understood, that he is in a state of confinement in his palace of the Retiro.

"2. The restoration of the King to his sovereign rights.

"3. Such a change in the Constitution of Spain as shall give to the Nobles a great share of the power they possessed under the old regime.

"4. The exclusion of the present Ministers from office, or, at least most of the Heads of the different Departments.

"5. An amnesty for all persons, of whatever rank, engaged in the cause of the Regency.

"6. A more strict regulation of the laws relating to the press.

"7. The possession of certain strong places as the frontiers of France, as a guarantee for the performance of any undertaking into which the Spanish Government may enter."

The Congress of Verona has sanctioned these demands, and the Committees of despotic safety have already determined on the proceedings which, according to their short sighted notions, are calculated to ensure the success of their impolitic interference. But we may safely assert, that their paternal intentions will not be carried into effect—the people of Europe entertain no respect for this new Congress, and we may be assured that the present high

mined and vigorous Ministry of Spain will indignantly reject the ignominious terms which have been offered as the price of Peace. The increasing danger on all sides has roused the energies of this warlike people, so that Spain has even thus early assumed the attitude which the crisis demands; and we may be satisfied after the tremendous efforts she has already made and the sacrifices which have been endured in the cause of liberty, that she will commence the War with terrible energy and with the united force of the Kingdom. The crossing of the Pyrenees by the French Army will be the signal for one universal rising of the People, and probably the miserable FERDINAND, like LOUIS of unfortunate memory, will soon find reason to wish that he had not called for foreign interference. The Bourbons of France too, may quickly have cause to lament their having embarked in this iniquitous attempt, for in their present precarious situation, the obedience of their Army is more than questionable, and the slightest misfortune will be sufficient to revive those Revolutionary Plots and conspiracies which have repeatedly threatened the Bourbon Dynasty. That the present Government is unpopular to the last degree no one can doubt, who has attended to passing events, and the prevailing opinion at home is, that the greatest dissatisfaction prevails in France with the objects of the War, and that nothing short of a new Revolution will be the consequence of its prosecution. It is this belief that has occasioned the panic in the holders of Foreign Stock, for such an event must sooner or later involve the whole of Europe in War. At the same time we agree with a Contemporary that nothing could happen more favourable to the hopes of the friends of liberty all over the world, than this War. We shall expect, says he, with great impatience the first overt act of the French Army on the confines of Spain. "We shall rejoice when the signal gun shall be fired, and all Europe will have cause to rejoice at it."

No doubt the LIBERALS of Europe calculate with certainty upon a re-action which will give other Countries an opportunity of shaking off the yoke of despotism. Every one remembers the outcry which was raised throughout Europe against NAPOLEON's invasion of Spain—it was universally stigmatized as the most flagrant outrage that was ever committed on the rights of Nations, and there is now no question that it created a feeling of hatred which ultimately sealed his fate—yet we must confess that NAPOLEON's invasion was not half so odious and unjustifiable as the present insolent attempt, and it is probable that it will end in nothing short of a general convulsion throughout Europe.

*Death occasioned by Neglect.*—An inquest was held on Thursday evening (Dec. 8.) at the Olive Branch, Homer-street, Portman-square, on view of the body of Joseph Payne, Esq. a gentleman of property, resident in Marylebone for many years; his death, which it was supposed was accompanied with mysterious circumstances, led the parish to conceive that improper means had been used, when it was resolved to have the opinion of a jury—William Frederick Goodger, house-surgeon of Marylebone Infirmary, stated, he was called upon to view the deceased's body, but there were no marks of violence, nor could he judge what was the cause of his death—Dr. Badger, of Upper Baker-street, stated that he was called upon to attend deceased, and found him in bed, attended by his wife and daughter. Witness asked deceased whether he had had any medical advice; to which he said he had not, and upon enquiry, why, the deceased said it had been his wish from the time he was first taken ill, but that his wife would not let him have any. The deceased was at that time in the agonies of death, but perfectly sensible. Witness turned to his wife; and asked her the reason why she did not have proper medical assistance: when she evaded the questions by many impertinent observations. She imputed drunkenness to him, but from his regular habits he is aware that was not the case; and he does not hesitate in saying, that if proper attendance had been given to him, he might have survived much longer, he being only 55 years of age; but, in his opinion, deceased died of inflammation on the chest.—Several Jurymen here repeated the many indignities they had seen the deceased suffer, both from his wife and daughter; in various instances they had seen the deceased

treated in the most shameful manner, very frequently crying out, "Murder," &c. Howell, the summoning officer, said, that when he went to the house and enquired if a body was lying there dead, the wife's answer was "Go and seek"—John Perry, of Homer-street, stated he lives next door to deceased's house, whom he saw about a fortnight past, scarcely able to walk. For some time past he has repeatedly heard a great noise in the house, and frequently heard deceased cry out "Murder." Very often he has seen the wife strike the deceased with great violence, saying, "Hanging was too good for him," and calling him an "old rogue. In various instances he had seen the deceased out with a black eye and other marks on the face: he did not see the deceased while he was ill.—This statement was confirmed by two opposite neighbours, who had frequently heard the deceased cry out "Murder!" He was a very weak man, and when once attempting to escape from her hands, the wife pulled him back and beat him through the passage; they have frequently seen him come to the door with his mouth bleeding, crying out for some one to come to his assistance, for that his wife and daughter were murdering him—James Walters stated he lodged in the same house as the deceased, and has done so for some years before deceased had the house. There had been continual strife and discordance in the family; but more during the last year, when he has frequently heard the cry of murder. The cause of such contention, he believes, was in consequence of the women of bad character that were daily brought there by deceased's wife, to which the deceased was much averse, and wished them not to be brought there; but he being a weak man, his wife obtained a complete dominion over him; he has frequently heard him, but never was an eye-witness to it. About five or six days before his death, he was sitting by deceased's bedside reading to him, and he (witness) wished a doctor to be sent for: but the wife opposed it, stating it was no use, for his constitution was gone. Witness then wished a reconciliation to take place, but this deceased refused to do, and although witness urged it by every religious motive, the deceased would not do it; he was at the deceased's bedside when the medicine came, but his wife refused to take it in, alledging that it was too late. He did not seem disposed to take any thing from his wife and his daughter's hands, for fear of being poisoned; but latterly he had had nothing but water.—Mr. Potter, of Crawford-street, gave similar evidence.—Ann Smith was then called. The manner in which this witness gave her evidence sufficiently indicated her character; the whole of her statement, however, was in contradiction to the former evidence given.—The Jury being of opinion they should not require any more evidence, took a view of the body, which was in a putrid state, and after consulting together for half an hour, returned their verdict—"That the deceased died of inflammation on the chest, and that he experienced great neglect from his wife and daughter, and want of medical assistance."

*Death of the Duke D'Escars.*—Two days before the death of the Duke D'Escars, he was received by the King in the morning. His Majesty, who was in a very good humour, said, "Well, M. le Duc, it is a long time since I ate any *trouilles*" (a sort of German dish prepared of pastry, butter, &c.) The Duke bowed and replied—"Enough, your Majesty's wishes shall be gratified." "Eh bien," said the King, "give me one to-morrow morning, and come to breakfast—we shall be alone." The breakfast actually took place, and lasted much longer than that meal ordinarily does. The consequences were fatal. Both the King and the Duke were taken with a surfeit, and the Duke died soon afterwards. The King was in the greatest danger when the death of his first *Maitre d'Hôte* was communicated to him, without any previous preparation. The fright produced by the news was, however, the cause of his recovery. It produced on the nerves of the Monarch a commotion, which at the moment increased his physical powers—a sudden sickness in the stomach dislodged the enemy, and preserved Louis for the country and its cooks.

*Title of the Clergy to Tithes.*—Blackstone says he will not put the title of the clergy to tithes upon any divine right, though such a right certainly commenced, and as certainly ceased, with the Jewish Theocracy, &c.—3 Comm. c. 3.



## The Edinburgh Review.

We propose in this article to take a cursory notice of the contents of the last number of the *EDINBURGH REVIEW*, simply because we think that it more than usually well supports its character of being one of the two main *media* for conveying the opinions and objects of the ablest opposing thinkers of the day. We are aware that this is in some sort holding a candle to the sun; but no little experience of the reading world has convinced us, that a small portion of off-hand observation will assist to force into wider notice even a degree of merit that ought in no way to demand it. In the spirit of this conviction we make no further apology for the following spontaneous remarks on the last importation from the North.

Attending to the subjects in this number according to their ability and importance, we are called first to notice a very elaborate and able article upon Ireland, got up in the very best manner of this review. Disclaiming all the party object, without sacrificing decided opinion, it is admirably timed at this moment, when no exertion of ingenuity, or partial pleading of self interest, can either conceal the state of that unhappy country, or the causes which have led to it. As the Reviewer very justly observes, this question may be argued very fairly; the misgovernment of Ireland not having been ministerial, but national; not the fault of one party, but of all; and therefore, without comparison, the greatest opprobrium of English history. We do not recollect any other country, except Turkey, which, retaining dominion over another for centuries, has exercised an ascendancy so lastingly and unfeelingly pernicious. If we regarded the operations of a superintending Providence with the eyes of many of our pious contemporaries, so impressed are we with this fact, we should be looking out for some very signal national infliction in the way of special interference. Our creed gives no sanction to this sort of expectation, but it looks for quite as much from the profound working of a general law—that misgovernment has its *ne plus ultra*, and is at once restrained and punished by its own consequences. Ireland is in this state, and every thing shows it: if it could remain, indeed, as hitherto, a routine of oppression, partiality, injustice, and military interference, on the one side; and of starvation, disorder, rapine, revenge, murder, and the hangman, on the other,—we are aware that the predominant order of nerve, would, with great complacency, put up with such a cycle for ever. Happily, it is beginning to be evident to all men, that this exact order of cause and effect can last no longer, without detracting from the profit of the tyranny. Ascendancy has gone its length, there must be change,—there can be no progression without it.—Even the desperate game of another rebellion to thin the population, would not succeed. That game has been too recent for effective repetition, and would no longer answer the purpose of the proprietary, to say nothing of the humane policy of making it a species of physical necessity about every score of years to the end of time. Hence, however against the grain, something must be done; and the merit of this article in the *EDINBURGH REVIEW* consists in the forcible manner in which it designates the heads into which that something may be, or is comprised.

The first of these necessities, it properly and forcibly describes to be Catholic Emancipation. We are used to the thing, or the oppression and absurdity of making the religion of at least five-sixths of a population, a cause of civil disqualification, would be regarded as monstrous. In truth, it is at this moment unparalleled throughout the world. There are governments, indeed, intolerant of all but their own state religion, but that religion is at all events the religion of the majority. In shewing the utter impossibility of establishing concord in Ireland, until this eternal source of bitterness be removed, the Reviewer is very clear and able; exhibiting in detail effects which almost every acute and impartial mind could deduce *a priori*. What, however, the more sagacious can foresee to be inevitable, it is well should be exhibited as fact to those who are less so; and with all *disinterested* people the Reviewer must be most weighty. With the remainder it is useless to argue. What minority ever gave up the power of

oppressing a majority, as long as they could retain it? Besides, this mode of governing Ireland has existed from the conquest; before a religious schism arose to supply a pretence for making the greater the *helots* of the lesser number, there was the distinction of within and without the *pale*; and the petitions of the poor Irish to be allowed to be equal and peaceable subjects, was opposed with precisely the same pertinacity as at present,—not quite so hatefully, to be sure, because the pretence not assuming a religious feature, there was less *hypocrisy*.

After Catholic Emancipation, the reviewer proceeds to the second Irish grievance—Church Revenue and Tithes. The Revenue of the Irish Church is certainly one of the most striking proofs of the rapacious nature of government by an *ascendancy*, that ever was afforded. Here is a Church for the benefit (excluding both Catholics and Dissenters) of a fourteenth part of the population, more richly endowed, at this moment, than any other Church in the Christian world: 185,000*l.* among 22 individuals, with a capability of improvement into three times as much—what an admirable illustration of primitive Christianity, and of the modesty of the doctrine that would argue thus out of *national* into *private* property! We cannot imagine any man so impudent as to assert, that all this riches is necessary to the good government of the Irish Church: but then it is its *property*! Where this monstrous appropriation only wasteful and nugatory, it might be borne, but alas! it is a positive evil, a poison furnished by the soil for the destruction of the natives of it. What minority ever gives up such emoluments as these—what minority will not keep a majority under hatches for ever to preserve them! The Reviewer, as in the foregoing head, most clearly exhibits the result of this profligacy to be precisely what may be expected. The Irish pre-lacy, having little or nothing to do, spend as much as possible of their time in England, and die, like *primitive apostles*, worth 2 or 300,000*l.* a-piece.

If such Church Revenue be a crying shame, the Tithe System of that unhappy country is something worse. It might almost seem an invention of Satan himself for the production of the greatest possible degree of misery, oppression, rapine, and disorder. The review is particularly serviceable in collecting the strong features of this most diabolical source of oppression, with forcible succinctness. The partial iniquity of the allotment, by the withholding the tithe of *Agistment* or of pasture land, thrown almost exclusively upon the Catholic peasantry—the excessive litigation produced by collecting the support of one religion from the followers of another, with the additional pillage of the lawyer and the revenue, not for justice,—for *that*, nine times out of ten, is too dear for the purchase of the unhappy defendant,—but because he cannot defend himself;—all these facts are most forcibly pointed out in the summary and *multum in parvo* manner, which forms the beauty and utility of this sort of epitome. Fortunately, the last is one of the evils which are operating their own cure; the Landholder himself beginning to shrink from the consequences, and even a few of the clergy. The major part of the latter are, however, for holding fast. At a visitation in the diocese of Armagh, last week, the Most Reverend Primate found out, with as much truth as novelty, that the object of those who were combining for a commutation of tithes, was not the relief of the peasantry, but the destruction of the *Protestant religion*, which of course, as an *Evening Paper* justly observes, depends upon Great Britain “raising taxes and supporting armies to enable an inefficient clergy to collect tithes from seven millions of people, in order to keep up a lukewarm belief in a fourteenth part of them.” But all this is natural enough in a Beresford, who, doubtless, does not consider Scotland as a Protestant country at all. There is something remarkably illustrative in all this *noodledum*, considering the quarter whence it comes. There never was a rich priesthood yet, which did not regard its own emoluments as the palladium of the faith; and we wager, that upon this head, the Mufti of Constantinople and the Primate of Ireland are both in a story. The Reviewer condenses closely and powerfully upon this most interesting subject, and happily too, most reasonably.

The next source of Irish disorder, which is classed under the head of Government and Magistracy, ably exposes the nature

of an executive composed throughout the whole course of social administration, of an ascendancy or factious minority. As we have before observed, the presumed Author of Evil himself could not have more effectually polluted the sources of political well-being. The miserable character of the Irish Magistracy is almost proverbial; and under a system which supplies an eternal premium for brutality and oppression, it can scarcely be otherwise. The Reviewer recommends resident Lord Lieutenants to each county, to alleviate this evil; but nothing will amend it while any thing administrative remain an anti-catholic monopoly. The very anxiety to maintain it so, must eternally produce injustice: it cannot be otherwise. Some explanation given under this head, in respect to the Sheriffalty, is peculiarly instructive. In fact, there is no justice in Ireland for poverty, and the miserable consequence is an opinion on the part of the oppressed, that all is fair in their own defence. Hence those scenes in Irish Courts of Justice, which are so truly disgraceful the audacious falsehood and flagrant perjury. Hence all sorts of combination to counteract what is enacted as law, but felt as injustice; and the intolerable licence, disorder, and insurrection, which form the unavoidable consequence. Hence, in short, a dissolution of all that regard for the laws, which depends upon an involuntary consciousness that they are constructed for the equal protection of all men.

The next division of the Reviewer is Education, upon which he collects some instructive information as to the deficiency of Irish Education, both Catholic and Protestant. This portion of the article is very coolly and impartially handled. The perversion of the funds of certain royal foundations into sinecures, is most shameful; but we know something of that sort in England. The description of the usual Catholic schoolmaster is exceedingly picturesque, as well as of the classic productions, by means of which his scholars are for the most part instructed.

Lastly, this very able summary adverts to the operation of the revenue laws upon the lower Irish population, including the unhappy subject of illicit distillation. Some useful observations will be found under this head, upon the necessity of giving artificial wants to the Irish peasant; or, in other words, a taste for something beyond the very cheapest means of existence, in order to exalt him into a provident and reflective animal. Some excellent observations upon certain untimely restrictive duties, passed at the Union, to prevent the introduction of the manufacture of the one country to the other, are also afforded, which, on the liberal and open principles of trade so ably supported by this publication, shew the extreme folly of such provisions on all sides.

Such is a brief account of an article, which ought to be universally read, as supplying an excellent abstract of the basis upon which Irish reform should rest. By all of professed political taste, the perusal of the EDINBURGH REVIEW is an affair of course; but there are many to whom subjects of this class are not usually attractive, who, when informed that it is to be obtained in a small compass, will venture upon what they would not otherwise encounter: and even at the risk of being accused of a work of supererogation, we would omit nothing which by possibility might tend to make a clear notion of the usage of Ireland a part of general British acquirement.

We have already observed, that one of the performances in which the EDINBURGH REVIEW most excels, is a forcible and well-digested epitome. This talent is particularly well exhibited in a review of the Memoirs of the Earl of Waldegrave and of Horace Walpole. We are not quite aware of the necessity; indeed, as we have before had occasion to remark, except as illustrating that which, in a certain sense, may be termed a branch of politico-natural history, we know of no study more profitless than that of the ministerial, corrupt, and oligarchical pettifoggery of the animalculæ, which flourished as courtiers and ministers from the retirement of Sir R. Walpole to the ascension of the second Pitt. During the whole of the period, Great Britain appears to us to have been a complete *Lilliput*. Passing events, however, so clearly shew that a large portion of this aristocratical venality, greediness, and corruption, is not only inherent in the system, but must continue in it until the people are more adequate-

ly, represented, such exposures as those of Horace Walpole and Lord Waldegrave are not without their use, although an objection may still hold good against the necessity of taking that sort of pains with them, which has been taken in the present article. Historically and politically, we think they are thrown away; in a literary point of view, it may be more defensible. Although Horace Walpole may not steer entirely clear of the imputation of being only a lord among wits, his wit, satire, scandal, *periffage*, and thorough knowledge of his own sphere, render him one of the highest class of personages to whom the sarcasm can be made applicable.

The next article in point of importance, is upon the *Napoleon in Exile* of Mr. O'Meara, which supplies a temperate and able exposure of the unparalleled meanness and littleness of the treatment of the most intellectual man in Europe. We have given so much ourselves to this subject, we are not very disposed to resume it at second-hand; but we cannot help expressing satisfaction, that hitherto, with the exception of a writer whose ravings in regard to Bonaparte has afforded him a nickname for life,—no human being has attempted a defence of the execrable conduct towards him, so manfully detailed by Mr. O'Meara; nor does even the hirelings of the Bourbons trust himself with detail,—it is too nationally degrading. This book will be eminently serviceable to the character of Napoleon, if only by the excessive falsehood in respect to him which it will extinguish for ever. Although an expensive work, it seems that nearly 10,000 copies have been already sold. What has the QUARTERLY been doing, not to rush to the combat in the last number? Have its conductors been so weak as to imagine that this publication would not sell? They must now go to work, after all, uselessly as to the prevention of circulation, and with the certainty of even adding to it exactly in proportion as they revive an interest in the strange and eventful close of an existence so strikingly marked as that of Napoleon Bonaparte.

In one of those splenetically humorous moments, which tempt men occasionally to add celerity to the descent of a falling piece of baseness, we suppose one of the Northern Band, took it into his head to pen a few pages upon the Bridge-street Combination,—that most despicable and would-be oppressive cabal, whose recent conduct towards the miserable weaver it has contrived to get into its fangs, by going to Manchester for a victim, and Lancaster for a trial, must necessarily indispose every man of honourable mind from remaining in "the gang," if any of that description have for a long time belonged to it. The base game of oppressing through a *purse*, as exemplified in the recent removal of the case of Ridgway by *certiorari*, at the very moment of expected trial, and after he had incurred all the expence of preparing for it, accompanied, as it was, by the evident wonder and contempt of the presiding Judge, has placed this blessed Confederacy so completely in the mire, it is next to be blackening a negro to bespatter them any further. The Reviewer is aware of this; but after enumerating (and there is some utility so far) the outrageous ignorance, arrogance, and oppression, exhibited in their early measures, he thus significantly concludes: "We entertain little apprehension of seeing the attempt renewed; but it seemed good to record the facts and state the reasons which should deter honest men, and lovers of their country, whatever may be their political opinions; and put the unwary upon their guard against the artifices of those, who, through false alarms, would make them a prey." This is the Iliad in a nutshell. It is no good sign for the ship's crew that the purser grows rich; and societies may reasonably doubt the solid principles of an institution, which produces little or nothing except attorneys' bills. The scribe whom men have agreed to call Slop, says that much more has been performed; which he proves much like the sage mentioned by Swift, who seeing an ass drink in a pond by the light of the moon, on the partial obscuration of the luminary, exclaimed that the long-eared animal had swallowed it. As the nautical adage has it, "this may do for the marines, but the sailors will not believe a word of it." A certain order of subscribers may be credulous, but Mr. Murray knows better.



# THE COUNCIL OF TEN.

— 805 —

## The Council of Ten.

(Continued from last Saturday's Journal, Page 780.)

### CONDUCT OF THE "JOHN BULL."

We deliberated for some time among ourselves whether we should not do too much honour to this paper by making it the subject of distinct notice, and especial condemnation. But our own minds were at length satisfied by the following considerations: We wanted some text on which to suspend our farther and more particular commentaries upon a system, which we have already reprobated as fraught with infinite disgrace and gigantic mischief. And the "JOHN BULL" newspaper appeared the publication best adapted to our purpose. The Scotch journals are covered with the odium which they merit; and sinking under the weight of their own infamy. The very patrons are ashamed of their patronage; the very encouragers blush for their encouragement. But with regard to the "JOHN BULL" some strange infatuation still exists in the public mind. The sun of national favour has shone upon it and fostered it, until the reptile, which was weak and despicable at its birth, has grown or rather been transformed, into a hideous monster, formidable for its size and strength. The nuisance is become too glaring for passive acquiescence, too pernicious for silent contempt. The editors of this unmanly production, the high-priests who officiate in the horrid rites of slander and defamation and private libels, still dare to urge their impudent pretensions, as the friends and benefactors of their fellow-citizens; as men who have assisted the government, who have advocated the cause of morality, order, and religion; who have disabused and undeceived the people; who have done good service to the state. Here, therefore, the castigation is most required, and will have most effect. They have no long time to live and fatten on public estimation; so let them make the most of it. They, too, shall be exposed and put down. Let them look at the fate of their colleagues and fellow-labourers, and tremble for their own.

Another reason for our interference is, that although this journal has been often and deservedly attacked, yet these attacks have either been directed with so little force, and so little judgment, that the darts in some instances have missed their aim, in others have fallen short of their object, and dropped pointlessly to the ground; or, the publications in which they have been commenced, were themselves sore and vulnerable on those very points where they attempted to inflict the deepest and most fatal stroke upon their antagonist. Unconnected as we are with any party or with any paper, we shall enter upon the contest under better auspices; and we desire it to be plainly and unequivocally understood, that we pass our censure upon the "JOHN BULL" without defending the opinions, or justifying the conduct, of its political opponents. Our course is entirely our own—shall be always our own unto the end of our career.

We must clear the ground by a few remarks on the common vindication which is urged in defence of all the libels which have been published, all the literary atrocities which have been perpetrated, within the last two years on the side of Toryism. It is said, that at the period of their establishment the press was swarming with a deadly variety of publications, of which the certain and obvious tendency was to excite sedition, disorder, and disaffection; that the usual remedies could avail nothing; that there was an absolute insurmountable necessity for having recourse to a strong, violent, and threatening method of writing; that it was a time, when appeals must be made not to the reasons of men, but to their fears; that the means pardonable and even praise-worthy in consideration of the greatness and utility of the end; in a word, that the evil spirit was laid, and the country saved, chiefly by the efforts of "JOHN BULL" and his coadjutors in the work of defamation. These gentry must themselves allow, that we have here placed their argument in the most favourable light, and stated the whole strength of their case. Let us examine this defence: it stands, we fear, upon a very rotten foundation. Now the "JOHN BULL," which is almost the first in the series of these publications, was started at the very end of the year 1820. Granting, therefore, as we are ready to do, the existence of that sedition, disorder, and disaffection, which evil minded journalists were labouring to foster and augment, we have still two answers to this plea of extenuation and excuse. First, the tide was turned, the people were coming to their senses; the storm,—if there was ever any danger of its bursting upon our heads—had blown over before the establishment of the "JOHN BULL." The waters only remained in a slight state of agitation from the tempest which was gone. The good feeling and sound disposition of the English nation had already brought back the body politic to a healthy state; when the "JOHN BULL" impudently interposed, and claimed the merit of the cure; as when a patient has recovered from a severe illness by the mere efficacy of a strong constitution, the quack who happened to be called in at some lucky moment after the

regular physicians had departed, steps forth with diverting self-complacency, and tells us that his nostrum has done the business of nature.

Secondly, although we agree with Shakspeare, that,

—diseases desperate grown,

By desperate appliance are relieved;

we also affirm, that such means never did, and never could, accomplish the object which is alleged. It is not in the nature of things that calumny should sooth irritation, or private libels produce order. Has it ever happened, that wine has made a man sober, or spirituous liquors allayed a fever? Slander and defamation—when they have any effect at all—can only exasperate the vehement, madden the indignant, and disgust the indifferent. In fact, the publications of which we complain, have, as might have been expected, added fuel to the fire of party rage, and inflamed the violence of political disputes to a ten-fold heat. To talk of calming by scurrilous jests, and pacifying by malignant personalities, is sheer abuse of language, and mockery of common sense. It is the very acmé of villany or folly. Nor have the English ever been a nation—God forbid that they ever should be—who can be terrified by menaces, when they have been impenetrable to argument. We not only, therefore, deny the fact in the present instance, but in all cases whatever, in the widest and most comprehensive manner, we deny the possibility of the fact.

But we go farther; we affirm, that, the defence which is set up strikes at the very root of all morality. The old maxim which forbids us to do evil, that good may result from it, is still the best and safest for the fallibility of human nature. Shall a man be suffered to commit an acknowledged offence against the laws of social life, because in his own opinion, perhaps, society may be ultimately benefited by the commission? Shall private libels be endured because the libeller forsooth imagines, or pretends to imagine, that the exposure of such or such a character will be of service to the community? According to these principles, it would be allowable, and even commendable, to murder a bad man, upon the plea, that his life was burdensome or mischievous, and that his friends would profit by his removal from the world. It would be right to steal a miser's money, upon the ground that the thief would make a better use of it than the person who was robbed. In short, there is no earthly crime which would not admit of palliation and justification, if we listen for a moment to the proposition, that any means may be employed for the attainment of a good end. On the very favourable supposition, therefore, that the abusive personalities, in which the "JOHN BULL" and similar publications have indulged, may have had a beneficial effect in some particular instances, still the general system can never be too cordially detested, or too warmly reprobated. If individuals are tolerated in neglecting those eternal and fundamental laws, which the wise and good of all ages have agreed to recognise as inviolable and sacred; or in setting them aside, as idle and inapplicable, on any and every occasion, when it accords with their fancy or their interest; if they are to have a licence for slander and scurrility, by referring to their own variable standard of fitness, propriety, or decorum, what is to become of the tranquillity of a state, or the security of its members?

We conclude, then, that in whatever light we regard it, this defence is the most preposterous, the most arrogant, and the most shameless, that was ever attempted to be imposed upon the credulous simplicity of a good-natured people. It is vanquished at the first touch of investigation like a ghost at cock-crow before the dawn of the morning. We sweep it away with the most undisguised and unqualified expressions of ignominy and scorn. In any tribunal either legal or moral it must be scouted with laughter.

If this, therefore, is the ground on which the editors of the "JOHN BULL" would make their stand, it falls at once beneath their feet; if this is the case which they are anxious to establish, it entirely fails. Upon what other basis, then, will they rest their justification; to what fresh devices, and sophistries, will they have recourse?

Will they shift their defence, and deny the publication of private libels? will they deny, that they have heaped, without necessity and without decency, the most injurious taunts, the most insulting contumelies, upon their political adversaries? will they deny, that natural defects and family misfortunes have been the butt of their unsparingly and ungentlemanly buffooneries? We dare them to the denial.

But our warmth is betraying us into hasty and desultory censure. We must be methodical in our accusation. We, therefore impeach the writers and proprietors of the "JOHN BULL" newspaper before the nation at large upon the following charges:—first, of the worst moral turpitude and debasement; of conducting a public journal in a manner at once disgraceful to themselves and discredit to the country; secondly, of folly equal to their baseness, and ignorance on a par with their presumption. As we know that they will not plead guilty to these charges, we shall proceed to the proof.

Now, we must really be allowed in this stage of the discussion to take it for granted, that a writer is disgraced by dragging the circumstances of individuals, and the occurrences of private life, unnecessarily before the public, and exposing them to the ribald jeers and idle sarcasms of the multitude; that he is dishonoured by attacking the virtuous reputation of his countrywomen both living and dead; by abusive personalities, gross indelicacies, and exposed, yet unacknowledged and unretreated, falsehoods:—that discredit, moreover, is reflected upon the country in which such a system is pursued.—It only remains for us to demonstrate, that of this nature has been the uniform conduct of the "JOHN BULL."

Fortunately for us, much time and trouble may be saved by a reference to the decisions of a court of law, and the verdicts of a British Jury. Here is conclusive and irresistible authority against the persons whom we accuse. Nor have they been convicted of a single accidental libel, but of a continued series and concatenation of calumnies directed against four separate persons in the course of a year. We venture to assert that this fact is, under all the circumstances, totally unexampled and unprecedented in the annals of political discussion.

But it may be urged, that although they have been declared guilty according to the technicalities of law, yet *in foro conscientia*, in the courts of equity and honour they are without criminality, and ought to be without reproach. In answer to this we say, that their legal offences are a shadow, a cipher, are absolutely nothing, in comparison with their moral guilt; that if we could waive the decision of a court of justice, if we could forget that they were tried and convicted; nay more, were found utterly destitute of the slightest colour of justification and excuse; if we were to judge of their conduct simply by the natural unsophisticated feeling of every honourable mind, the punishment which must be awarded them would be infinitely more severe than any which they have hitherto sustained from the laws of the country.

Let it be remembered, that three of these convictions have been for libels upon women, and the fourth for an attack upon the private character of a man in business. Look, reader, at this plain unvarnished statement, and say, is it not enough? May we not exclaim with Cicero; "Si nihil aliud nisi de lege dicimus; nihil dico amplius: causa dicta est. Quid enim horum infirmari Græcæ potest?" Three libels upon women in the space of a single year! What! torture the sensitive feelings of that sex, which has no means of protecting or avenging itself, by scurrilous and brutal paragraphs in a public journal—not once, or by chance, but to such frequency and extent, that these attacks constituted the chief feature of the publication!—Merciful Heaven! are we speaking of Englishmen—and of Englishmen in an age like the present, when the theory of morals is so well understood, and the refinements and delicacies of life are brought to so high a pitch? The monster who has made it his amusement to maim and mangle the faces of women in the public streets, is not half so heartless, so debased, so execrable a ruffian, as he who disseminates anonymous calumnies against their honest fame, either in deliberate malice, or in barbarous levity, under the shelter of concealment. The injury which they suffer in their persons from the knife of the assassin, is not half so painful and so terrible as the mental anguish which they must endure from the poisoned dagger of the slanderer.

But the writers of the "JOHN BULL" affirm, that they dragged no woman into public notice, who had not made an exposure of herself in the first instance by stepping from her proper sphere. Unfortunately, we cannot enter fully into the question without opening old wounds, which are now healed; and reviving angry dissensions, which it is to be hoped will sleep for ever and be forgotten. This, therefore, we forbear to do, however our argument may be weakened by the omission. Yet the generous, and humane, and high-minded of all parties, and all opinions, must agree that whether the late unhappy Queen was or was not guilty of the crimes imputed to her charge, some respect was due to her rank, and some decency ought to have been observed on account of her calamities. She was a woman, and she was deserted. They will also agree, that it was at least possible for many persons of both sexes in their hearts and consciences to believe her to have been innocent. It matters nothing to our reason that we ourselves were reluctantly obliged to come to a different conclusion. Well!—the ladies who became the constant marks at which the arrows of the libellers were discharged might have been among the number of those who thought the guilt of her late Majesty unestablished by any evidence on which reliance could be placed. They believed her innocent, and they determined to support her; they saw her forsaken, and they visited her; they beheld her sinking, as they conceived, under unmerited degradation, and they boldly resolved to countenance and uphold her. In this conduct, perhaps, was more of Christian charity than of worldly wisdom. Say it was indiscreet. But, good God! is it to be tolerated that a journalist should pry into the secret history of any woman in the United Kingdom, or rake up all the unpleasant circumstances which have happened in her family, on ac-

count of an indiscretion. And, after all, what was the indiscretion? What was the exposure of themselves? They chose to visit the wife of their sovereign at a time when she was labouring under misery and privations, which had been, in their opinion, unjustly and wantonly inflicted. We, of course, can only judge of their motives, as they appear upon the face of the transaction; and we repeat, that if such a thing as this may be made, with impunity, the huddle of filthy and disgusting attacks upon the characters of our countrywomen, they had better throw themselves at once upon the mercy of every scoundrel who writes for a newspaper.

Oh! but the "JOHN BULL" gave them warning. Gave them warning! and what right had the "JOHN BULL" to do any thing of the kind? What? is a skulking journalist, who is afraid to tell his name, to say to an English lady of rank: "Remember, you have here timely notice, that if you dare to leave your card at the Queen's house, I shall expose your private life for what I choose to consider the benefit of the nation; I shall publish all the scandalous tales, which I can collect or invent about you; if you disregard this denunciation, and act, after this fair warning, in opposition to my mighty will and pleasure, you must take the consequences." A slight and gentle remonstrance might have been allowable, might have been useful, might have been effectual; but there could be no shadow of justice for uttering such a menace, and much less for putting it into execution. Such a menace, in fact, could only serve as an incitement to a woman of spirit;—to a woman who was conscious to herself of unblemished character, or pure intentions. Let us put a case. Is one man justified in writing a threatening letter to another, and afterwards murdering him if he does not attend to it? Have you a right to forbid any person upon the high road to proceed farther in the direction in which he is walking, and then commit an assault upon him if he refuses to turn back? When we see a man or woman on the brink of some rash and imprudent action, are we authorized, in the room of mild but earnest dissuasion, first to urge and exasperate the party to it by our angry interference, and the foolish threat of our displeasure; and next inflict a punishment, in consequence of our threat, ten times greater than the offence? These are questions, which we leave our antagonists to answer. But farther; we may turn the tables upon themselves,—we may fire upon them from their own battery. We ask then, have we a right to say, we will expose, we will defame, we will calumniate, or merely, we will sift and relate the whole history since she came to years of discretion, of every woman, who has the wilful presumption to read and admire the "JOHN BULL?" Have we a right, we demand, to pronounce this menace in the present number of our publication, and enter upon the delightful office in our next? We shall not, indeed, act upon your reply; we have no wish to be your imitators or your rivals; the whole province of calumny and insult directed against man or woman, shall be left to your undisputed sovereignty. But are you dumb, honest John? Remove the difficulty, and escape from the dilemma as you can. Yet you cannot do either. Away, then, with this ridiculous plea of having given warning; let us hear no more of such insane and drivelling impertinence.

So much upon the general offence.—And what were the particular instances? What was the very first? It was an attack upon female reputation, such as must call a blush into the face of every honourable man for the depravity of human nature. It was an infamous accusation, which the vile, unmanly libeller dared not maintain in a court of justice, against an English lady of rank, of having criminal intercourse with a menial servant. That lady had been married to a baronet of high character and ancient family; children had been born from that marriage; and that lady was dead. Because her brothers and her father differed from the calumniator in the political opinions; because they were convinced of the Queen's innocence, and acted upon that conviction; pollution and ignominy were to be attached to her name after her decease,—her very grave was not sacred from profanation, and the foulest stigma was to be stamped and branded upon her kindred and her offspring. Can this be true? Are we not rather supposing some extreme case of merciless and shameless cruelty? Are we not drawing some imaginary picture of barbarity and horror? The blood curdles and the cheek turns pale at the mere mention of such atrocities. Why, the very wretch whose horrid employment is to steal at midnight the bodies of the dead, and deliver them to be hacked by the knife of the dissector, would at least spare the character of the departed, and shudder at the idea of slandering the actions, defiling the chastity, and mangling the honour of a woman upon whom the tomb had closed for ever.

Nor did the manner of their defence disgrace the revolting nature of the first enormity. In the court of justice they were mute, or only expressed through the medium of their counsel, regret and repentance; but in this mass of weekly falsehoods they continued to promulgate dark hints and diabolical insinuations, which they took good care should bear about them no marks of legal criminality. And this has been their uniform practice. They have preserved throughout the consistency of baseness.



A severe sentence of fine and imprisonment was passed upon them by the manly sense and uncorrupted honesty of a British tribunal. What is the next thing that happened? A subscription was opened for them by some foolish persons, who, we hope and trust, could not know what they were doing; and they,—they who poured upon others the full measure of their abuse for what was in fact the same identical mode of proceeding, absolutely received it; and begged for more with as much fawning meekness as the common decency of guilt, and the common discretion of iniquity, could possibly allow.—But our further remarks upon the subscription must be reserved to another stage of the inquiry.

Let us look at the next instance, in which a woman was the object of defamation.—Another lady of rank wished to exclude from her parties, as she had every right to do, the supporters and countenancers, much more the editors and writers, of the "JOHN BULL." Immediately after appears an article in this precious publication, in which the writer boasts and vapours, that he was himself present at one of these parties; without reflecting, or perhaps without caring about the dilemma in which he must be involved by the avowal. If he was not present, he uttered a wilful falsehood; if he was, what shall we think of the man, who could intrude himself into a company, where he must have known himself unwelcome; and repay the hospitality which he received, in consequence of not appearing in his proper character, by scribbling libels on his hostess? Where, in such a transaction, shall we discover the refined feelings of a gentleman, or the becoming pride and spirit of a man? On this occasion, indeed, the proprietors of the journal escaped punishment, by taking advantage of a remarkable neglect on the part of some person engaged in conducting the prosecution;—but they were convicted of the libel.

We now come to the series of libels upon the late Queen. We again say, that we shall entirely omit the question of her guilt or innocence; not because it is altogether irrelevant, but because, on the most unfavourable supposition, the conduct of the "JOHN BULL" merits the full scope of execration for its relentless persecution and wanton brutality. Libels so virulent and so atrocious, were never before penned against the worst and meanest individual who ever disgraced this country or humanity. No man of honour could have published them against any woman; no man, who had the slightest regard for his own character, either intellectual or moral, could have published them against a person whose innocence was even possible. For our own parts, we can call Heaven to witness, that we would not have been the authors of them upon any earthly consideration;—for all the wealth, and power, and dignity, which the world could afford us, we would not have the remembrance of such malignant cruelty, to rush through life across our minds in the hours of solitary reflection, or such dreams of horror and remorse to haunt us on our death-bed.

The attack, which was made by the writers of the "JOHN BULL" upon Mr. Waithman, was, as is worthy of remark, totally unconnected with political disputes, and could form no part of their duty to the public. It was an attempt to injure him in his trade—to deprive him of the means of realizing an honest provision for his family. We may, indeed, observe the almost devilish malice with which they have uniformly and invariably pointed the shafts of defamation. They have always struck at the tenderest and most vulnerable, and most vital part; they have always endeavoured to inflict the deadliest wound, which the ingenuity of hatred could devise. They have assailed the courage of gentlemen, the chastity of women, and the honesty of tradesmen. They have exhausted all the contrivances of laceration, and refined upon all the varieties of torture.

It will be seen, that we have hitherto instanced those delinquencies alone, on which the decisive verdict of a jury has been given. We have selected them, not because they were more atrocious than the rest, but because they were more tangible; not because there are no others, which it would be easy to prove, but, because these it is impossible to deny. Who, indeed, shall venture to contradict either their commission, or their overwhelming turpitude? Was there a single attendant fact to justify or palliate them in the eye of reason? Were they not rather accompanied with every circumstance of aggravated enormity?

These examples, moreover, are just specimens of the general plan on which the paper is conducted. In a multiplicity of other instances, the same system has been pursued with equal industry, equal perseverance, and equal malevolence. Its editors have written throughout, as if they had a license for calumny, an indemnity for abuse and might be scurrilous "cum privilegio." It is mere trifling, perhaps, after all, to turn our attention, to any particular cases, in which honourable feelings have been outraged, and discord in all its frightful shapes, let loose upon society. We must look to the whole spirit and temper of the

number of its publication;—we must look to the ruffianly manner in which all the political opponents of the conductors have been assailed, from the prince of the blood royal or the peer of the realm, to the tradesman or the public singer; we must look to their treatment of the Duke of Sussex, who has been compared to an unfortunate wretch executed for burglary; or the Duke of Bedford, or Mr. Brongham, or Mr. Braham; to their quarrel with Mr. Grey Beckett, their miserable shuffling before the House of Commons, their pitiful evasion of personal responsibility.

Our general charge is proved. If private libels can dishonour a paper, the "JOHN BULL" is dishonoured; if false and calumnious slanders can confer infamy, the "JOHN BULL" is infamous; if the prosecution of such a system can reflect disgrace upon a country, this country is disgraced.

We shall dismiss, therefore, for the time being, this part of the subject: the present castigation is only a slight sample of our mode of discipline—an earnest that we have "a rod for the fool's back;" yet, at this very moment an infinite variety of offences, which we have omitted to mention, crowds upon our minds. We remember, that these are the men who printed on a placard, in their table of contents, "Johnny Bedford eating his own words," because he made an honourable explanation after receiving the fire of his antagonist; that this is the Journal, which indirectly advocates in the last number, which we have seen, the dangerous, unconstitutional, and iniquitous doctrine, that officers in His Majesty's service should be promoted rather for their political opinions than their military or naval merits. We remember a thousand similar instances of malignity and injustice.

Farther, we undertake to prove, whenever we are called upon, that, in proportion to the time which has elapsed since its commencement, there is more grossness and indelicacy in this paper than in any other journal upon record; that when a filthy and indecent joke had previously enjoyed a week's run upon the town, it was fixed and embalmed in the "JOHN BULL;" that its negative are on a level with its positive demerits; that the high and general interests of the empire have been uniformly neglected for the work of private defamation and the gratification of private malice; that, if you take away the spice of personal abuse with which it is seasoned, there never was a production more dull, more barren, more inane; that, in short, it is a vehicle for slander, or it is nothing. In one or two cases, we confess it has denounced monopolies and impositions, and without considering that the chief brewers were Mr. Whitbread and other Whigs, we are inclined to give it full credit for a single good, which must indeed be of wonderful magnitude and importance, if its weight is at all perceptible, when placed in the balance against such numberless and heavy delinquencies.

We shall be told, perhaps, of the plain and hearty boldness with which the editors of the "JOHN BULL" have delivered their sentiments. We answer in the words of Shakespeare:—

*Plain, but not honest, is too harsh a style.*

We say also, and we can demonstrate, that there is as much cant, as much puffing, as much humbug—to use their own polished expression—in the midst of their open, and manly and undisguised sincerity, as in any or all of the rival papers which they have vilified and ridiculed on this very account; and we would inform them, that of all affectations, the affectation of bluntness is the most vulgar, the most stupid, the most palpable, and the most disgusting.

On the whole, the "JOHN BULL" newspaper is the most remarkable example, the most powerful agent of a system, which is opening the flood gates of dissension, and pouring the waters of suspicion and hatred over the land. Its writers are the chief priests in the temple of calumny, they ought to take out a patent for their discoveries in defamation; they enjoy a marked, if not an honourable, distinction. Other journalists have been betrayed into occasional abuse, they have never deviated into decency and candour; others have been guilty by chance of gross libels and illiberal personalities, but from their pens nothing else has ever escaped either by design or by mistake. They have reduced into a complete and organized system all the most flagrant abuses which, until the present period, had only occasionally disgraced the press; and they have laboured with an indefatigable diligence worthy of a better cause in the accomplishment of their scheme. They are the chief conspirators against the repose of society; the worst traitors against the comforts of domestic life; their predecessors and contemporaries are but poor petty larceny rogues in the comparison. They have "cried havoc, and let slip the dogs" of enmity and confusion and distrust against the peace and happiness of their countrymen and their countrywomen.

Newspaper Chat.

**An Anecdote in High Life.**—A man of high fashion, who deals largely in a certain combustible material, had long been attracted by the peculiar fine form of a widow bewitched, then under the protection of of a gentleman of great wealth. He had frequently said that he would give fifty pounds solely to be seen walking by her side in Bond-street. His wish was accidentally one day gratified thus:—At the moment of of a slight shower, the object continually uppermost in his thoughts appeared in the very scene. The gentleman tendered umbrella; it was accepted. Under the awning of a jeweller's shop they stopped, and chatted about the weather—the lady's eye being occasionally directed to the glittering toys in the window. "They are very pretty," she said. "Very pretty, indeed! suppose you go in and look at them," was the rejoinder. The lady acceded. "That is vastly beautiful! is it not?" speaking of a necklace. "It is! but how will it look round your neck?" "Try." He did try; when the lady dropping a curtsy, added, with the utmost sang froid, "Thank you! the rain is over; we will now if you please, walk." In an instant she was in the street, leaving the gentleman behind. The latter looked at the shopkeeper, and then at the door, and then on the jeweller again; lastly at his pockets. This awkward adventure, for the lady was gone, ended by his giving the tradesman his card; it was deemed satisfactory. In three days the bill was sent in; the item consisted of a necklace of brilliants, valued at 650 guineas. When a certain witty dowager heard of this, she said:—"Well! I hope this will teach married men to be more cautious in future, and particularly when they touch gunpowder."

**The Quack Emperor.**—The extreme interest which his imperial Majesty of Russia takes in the affairs of all Europe, and the sort of dictatorial en maître style in which he takes upon himself to reprehend and reform, is forcibly exhibited in his formal letter of thanks to the King of France's Attorney-General, for some political pleading which has the merit of being extremely palatable to the Czar of Muscovy, who, *ex-officio*, must be an admirable judge of the jurisprudence of a free country! The quackery of this Monarch's rings and testimonies is silly enough on the usual occasions—but autograph letters from a despot to an Attorney-General, for State prosecutions, is a piece of Imperial impertinence, which would be felt as an insult by the Authorities of a freely governed country. At this rate we shall be hearing of an autograph letter to Mr. Charles Murray, and a diamond ring to Mr. Sharpe. Alexander has these tokens, of all prices and qualities; a Clergyman in this metropolis, for instance, received a ring with a Bristol stone in it, which to be sure might be a fraud on the part of the Imperial jeweller, although it is not unlikely that, like a kindred character (one Mr. Joseph Surface) this assuming Autocrat may occasionally use the counterfeit for the real—sentimental French plate for sterling bullion, Bristol stones for real diamonds. In the case of the Constitutional Society, a compliment of this nature would indeed, as Junius observes, supply another admirable *fac simile* of the union of *Bliss* and *Black George*.—*Traveller*.

**William III and Dr. Radcliffe.**—The King, on his return from Holland (where, instead of following the Doctor's advice, he had lived very freely with several German Princes) found himself again very much out of order; and having his sole reliance on Dr. Radcliffe's judgment, sent for him to Kensington the last time, for he was then to be as much out of favour with his Majesty as he was with the Princess. After the necessary questions put by the Physician to the Royal Patient, said the King (showing his swollen ankles, while the rest of his body was emaciated and like a mere skeleton) "Doctor, what think you of these?"—"Why truly," replied he, "I would not have your Majesty's two legs for your three Kingdoms."—Which freedom of speech was resented so much, though seemingly not taken notice of during their conversation, that all the interest the Earl of Albemarle had at Court, and then he was the chief favourite, could not reinstate him in his Majesty's good graces, who, from that very hour, never would suffer him to come into his presence, though he continued to make use of his diet drinks till three days before his death, which happened to fall out much about the same time as the Doctor had calculated, and which the King had frequently said to the Earl beforementioned, would come to pass, in verification of Radcliffe's prediction. Since it appeared, upon opening his late Majesty's body, that he had lived as long as there was any nutriment for the animal spirits, and that if he had not fallen from his horse, which broke his collar bone, and might hasten his death for a few days, he must have been gathered to his fathers in less than a month's time, since his lungs were entirely wasted and died, and crumbled in the hand like a clod of summer dirt.—*Memoirs of John Radcliffe*.

**Humanity of an Angler.**—"Put your hook into his mouth; which you may easily do from the middle of April till August, and then the Frog's mouth grows up, and he continues so far at least six months without eating, but is sustained; but none except he whose name is Wonderful knows how:—I say, put your hook, I mean the arming-wire,

through his mouth, and out at his gills, and then with a fine needle and silk sew the upper part of his leg with only one stitch to the arming-wire of your hook; or tie the Frog's leg above the upper joint to the armed wire; and in so doing, use him as though you loved him, that is, harm him as little as you may possibly, that he may live the longer."—O rare gentle Isaac Walton!

**A Tavern.**—There is no private house (said Dr. Johnson) in which people can enjoy themselves so well as at a capital tavern. Let there be ever so great plenty of good things, ever so much grandeur, ever so much elegance, ever so much desire that every body should be easy, in the nature of things it cannot be; there must always be some degree of care and anxiety. The master of the house is anxious to entertain his guests; the guests are anxious to be agreeable to him; and no man, but a very impudent dog indeed, can as freely command what is, in another man's house as if it were his own. Whereas at a tavern, there is a general freedom from anxiety. You are sure you are welcome; and the more noise you make, the more trouble you give, the more good things you call for, the more welcome you are. No servants will attend you with the alacrity which waiters do, who are incited by the prospect of an immediate reward, in proportion as they please. No, Sir; there is nothing which has yet been contrived by man, by which so much happiness is produced, as by a good tavern, or inn.—*Boswell's Life of Dr. Johnson*.

**Expensive Gallantry.**—Among the *faciæ* of Charles the Second's days it was the custom when a gentleman drank a lady's health as a toast, by way of doing her greater honour, to throw some part of his dress into the fire, an example which his companions were bound to follow, by consuming the same article of their apparel, whatever it might be. An acquaintance, perceiving at a tavern dinner, that Sir Charles Sedley (the gay licentious wit and versifier) had a very rich lace cravat, when he named his toast, committed his cravat to the flames, as a burnt offering to the temporary divinity; and Sir Charles was of course obliged, along with the rest, to do the same. He complied with good humour, saying it was a good joke, but that he would have as good a one another time. Accordingly, a subsequent meeting of the same party, he toasted Nell Gwynne; and calling in a tooth drawer he had in waiting, made him draw a decayed tooth which it was a blessing to lose. His companions begged him to be merciful, and waive the custom; but he was inexorable, and added to their mortification by repeating, while their sound teeth were suffering under the operation,—"Patience, patience, gentlemen, you know you promised I should have my frolic too."

**Death of Admiral Byng.**—The fatal morning arrived, but was by no means met by the Admiral with reluctance. The whole tenor of his behaviour had been cheerful, steady, dignified, and sensible. While he felt like a victim, he acted like a hero. Indeed he was the only man whom his enemies had had no power to bend to their purposes. He always received with indignation any proposal from his friends of practising an escape,—an advantage he scorned to lend to clamour. Of his fate he talked, with indifference; and neither shunned to hear the requisite depositions, nor affected parade in them. For the last fortnight he constantly declared that he would not suffer a handkerchief over his face, that it might be seen whether he betrayed the least symptom of fear; and when the minute arrived, adhered to his purpose. He took an easy leave of his friends, detained the officers not a moment, went directly to the deck, and placed himself in a chair with neither ceremony nor lightness. He would not kneel, and refused to have his face covered; but being told that it might frighten his executioners, he submitted; gave the signal at once; received one shot through the head, another through the heart, and fell!—His whole behavior was natural and firm. A few days before, one of his friends standing by him said, "which of us is tallest?" He replied, "why this ceremony? I know what it means: let the man come and measure me for my coffin." He said, that being acquitted of cowardice, and being persuaded on the coolest reflection that he had acted for the best, and should act so again, he was not unwilling to suffer. Many years after this tragedy was acted, being with the Princess Amelia at her villa at Gunnersbury, she told me that while Admiral Byng's affair was pending, the Duchess of Newcastle sent Lady Sophia Egerton to her the Princess, to beg her to be for the execution. They thought, added the Princess, that unless he was put to death, Lord Anson would not be at the head of the Admiralty! I replied that I thought his death most unjust, and the sentence a most absurd contradiction. Lady Sophia Egerton was wife of a clergyman afterwards Bishop of Durham. What a complication of horrors! Women employed on a job for blood!—*Lord Orford's Memoirs*.

**Drunkenness and Loyalty.**—The Lord Chancellor (Jeffreys) had now like to have died of a fit of the stone, which he virtually brought upon himself by a furious debauch of wine at Mr. Alderman Duncomb's where he, the Lord Treasurer, and others, drank themselves into that height of frenzy, that, among friends, it was whispered, they had stripped into their shirts, and that had not an accident prevented them, they had got upon a sign-post, to drink the King's health; which was the subject of much derision, to say no worse.—*Reresby's Memoirs*.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—809—

## Dum-Dum Theatre.

The New Melo-Drama of BELLENDEN CASTLE, represented at this Theatre on Friday evening, is taken from the Tale of OLD MORTALITY, in the Tales of my Landlord; or rather it embraces some of the principal incidents of that story, with sundry alterations and inversions of the order of events, as related in the Novel. On the whole, we think, that the writer of this new Piece has performed the task of dramatizing this most interesting Tale, creditably, though there is still, as we observed yesterday, a woeful falling off, when the Drama is compared with the story, as told by the author of the Tale. We would advise those who go to see this Melo-Drama, to remember that comparisons are odious. To this commendation, however, we are desirous to record one exception, because it may easily be removed. We allude to the liberty taken with the character of MAJOR MILES BELLENDEN. In the story, he is a fine old hero, whose military ardour and courage, are aroused into all the activity of youth at the prospect of again directing the energies of war, in the defence of the Castle of Tillietudlem, (the Belenden Castle of the Melo-Drama). Like the ancient war horse, he snuffs the battle from afar, and the deeds of former days are recalled to his imagination, animating him to fresh exertions in the cause of his King. But what is he in the Melo-Drama?—Why, a mere old woman: and in fact, the words of his antiquated sister, the old LADY MARGARET BELLENDEN\* are put into his mouth, to render the character more ludicrous;—it is, in short, a complete caricature, though it is possible that the actor may have contributed in some degree to render it so, by the tame and spiritless manner, in which he represented the character. When however the words of a tedious old Grandam are put into the mouth of him, who ought to have been the valiant veteran, in whose mind the love of glory was yet unextinguished by age, the inference is natural, that it was intended to convert the old Soldier into the old man in his dotage; and this was precisely the character presented to us on Friday evening, as the representative of the heroic old MILES BELLENDEN. We cannot see that any good purpose or indeed any purpose at all, is answered by thus converting a respectable into a ridiculous character.

The other alterations in the story, we are not disposed to quarrel with—though, as we have intimated, they destroy in some degree its interest as related in the Tales of My Landlord. If the first scene, the Howffor change-house of NEIL BLANE could be thrown back far enough, to admit of the wrestling between BALFOUR and BURLEY, we would rather that this were not omitted, as it was the foundation of that bitter hatred of, and desire of personal vengeance on, BURLEY which afterwards influenced SERJEANT BOTHWELL. The catastrophe of the tale is of course altered in the Drama. In the former, BURLEY is both shot and drowned, in the latter, he is slain in a contest with LORD EVANDALE. We must now however advert to the representation of the Melo-Drama on Friday evening, though we may, perhaps, if we should be furnished with the means of doing so, at a future opportunity, give a more particular account of the piece.

The character of BURLEY was, with some exceptions, which we shall notice, ably performed. In this Actor's pronunciation he frequently reminded us of the truth of what BURKE has said, that "from the sublime to the ridiculous is but a step." The fault we now allude to, is that of continually using the aspirated *A* in words which have no such letter, either mute or aspirate. Thus we have for instance, the "Army" for the "army," &c. which constantly created a laugh in passages where the sentiments and the manner in which they were otherwise delivered, were calculated to excite sensations the very reverse of mirth.

\* Those who have read the Tale of "Old Mortality" must recollect what a horror the worthy Major had of the old Lady's account of the Disgrace of his Sacred Majesty at Tillietudlem, and how he always contrived to interrupt her, yet the commencement of this story, (which she would have related fifty times a day but was of course interrupted) is put into the mouth of the venerable Soldier, rendering his character more ridiculous (by the contrast with what is in the story) than her own.

This must be amended; and surely a little literary drilling would remove this fault. The other defect we have to notice, is that of occasionally "overstepping the modesty of nature:" for instance, in the delivery of some of the energetic passages of the Piece, we were pained by hearing a disagreeable catching of the breath at the end of every period; and in the scene in which BURLEY kills BOTHWELL, Nature was completely lost sight of, and the killing so completely overdone, that instead of exciting sympathy, it created a roar of laughter;—these defects, may easily be remedied; and when they are so—in the representative of the gloomy fanatic BALFOUR, we shall have little left to wish for.

SERJEANT BOTHWELL was throughout an efficient representation; but perhaps, no where better than in the first scene; the tone of mock-solemnity with which he proposed the toast to BURLEY "I make so bold as to request of your precision, beloved," &c. most completely accorded with our conception of the author's meaning, and the whole passage was given with great effect.

YOUNG MORTON was so represented, that the most critical could not have wished the character in better hands: his performance was throughout, in word and in action, chaste, dignified, and energetic—he was never betrayed into rant, the common fault of young votaries of the Tragic Muse; and entered too much into the spirit of the character, to be tame or insipid: he is certainly a promising Actor and on this occasion eminently merited the applause bestowed on him.

CUDDIE HEADRIGG was also in good hands, but we must remind the Actor of it, that a continual whining conventicle drail is not natural to the character; besides which, if occasionally varied according to circumstances, it would, when resorted to, produce a much better effect. In his pronunciation of the Scotch dialect, however, he was throughout the Piece tolerably successful.

We have already recorded CLAVERHOUSE and MAJOR BELLENDEN as failures. Of the latter we may perhaps say, in mitigation, that a great, if not the chief part, of the blame, of the tameness and insipidity of this character may be attributed to what we think an unpardonable perversion of it by the author of the Drama; but the CLAVERHOUSE of the Piece was, we are sorry to say, a complete failure on the part of the Actor, who represented any thing rather than that stern and relentless character as it is drawn both by the author of the Novel and the Writer of this Drama.

In our hasty notice in yesterday's Paper, we spoke of LORD EVANDALE and EDITH as characters devoid, of interest. To the former as it was represented on Friday night, the remark is applicable; but it is perhaps too sweeping a condemnation to be applied with justice to the character of EDITH. In the Melo-Drama, tho' certainly less interesting than in the Tale, there were still some scenes in which this character excited a considerable degree of sympathy and some in which it was well sustained—but in others, we thought the actress did not evince so much emotion as the circumstances of the case indicated to be natural; thus when she received notice that the prisoner brought into the Castle, was her lover, a piece of intelligence, that might be supposed almost to strike her to the earth, when it is considered that in those times "shoot or hang" was the order of the day, the information called forth nothing of that agony of grief and alarm, which it might be supposed to be certain of exciting. In the prison scene, the character was well played; and on the whole, the performance of it was respectable, though we have seen the same Actress to more advantage. In the representative of JENNY DENNISON we had nothing to complain of; and in the scene with TAM HALLIDAY the sentry, she was particularly happy and drew forth bursts of applause. TAM HALLIDAY, though an unimportant character, was a very successful representation.

We have now to speak of the Scenery, and our readers will do well to recollect, how essential to the success of a Melo-drama, good Scenery is; it is in fact as important, if not more so, than good acting. If therefore they have at Dum Dum good scenery in this new Melo Drama, and several good Actors, we think that the public will not dissent from our opinion, that notwithstanding

the defects we have noticed, the repetition of it may afford a gratification that will reward the trouble of a ride to Dum Dum. We can assure them then, that they never in India, witnessed more beautiful scenery, than that which was exhibited on Friday Evening in the Melo-Drama of Bellenden Castle; as the rapturous applause of the whole audience accompanied by loud exclamation of "beautiful" attending the exhibition of every new scene, sufficiently proved.

We are glad to observe that the Piece, is announced for repetition this evening, and most sincerely hope that the house will be as crowded as it was on Friday. Some may imagine that our strictures may have a tendency not to promote this end, but we are of a different opinion, and think that the pointing out of defects is as beneficial to the interests of the theatre, by being instrumental to their removal, as exciting confidence and emulation by awarding the meed of praise where it is due.

We did not remain to see the Farce out, but on the first Act, we saw enough to convince us that the whole would go off well. The representation of the LYING VALET, SHARPE was a complete personification of the character drawn by the Author; and MELISSA and Mrs. KITTY, the EDITH and JENNY DENISON of the Melo-Drama, were quite at home in the Farce, and seemed to give universal satisfaction.

### Lord Byron's Werner.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

That your readers may have an opportunity of observing with what degree of closeness Lord Byron has in some instances copied, (while he has *Byronised*,) the language of Miss Lee's *Canterbury Tale*, which he has dramatized, I send you an Extract from it, and beg you will subjoin the corresponding passage from Act III.

### MISS LEE'S CANTERBURY TALE.

"Conrad," exclaimed the latter, interpreting his looks, and in a tone that ill disguised the increasing anguish of his soul, "before you thus presume to chastise me with your eye learn to understand my actions! Young and inexperienced in the world—reposing hitherto in the bosom of luxury and indulgence, is it for you to judge of the force of the passions, or the temptations of misery? Wait, till like me you have blighted your fairest hopes—have endured humiliation and sorrow, poverty and famine—before you pretend to judge of their effect on you! Should that miserable day ever arrive; should you see the being at your mercy who stands between you and every thing that is dear or noble in life!—Who is ready to tear from you your name—your inheritance, your very life itself—congratulate your own heart, if, like me, you are content with petty plunder, and are not tempted to exterminate a serpent, who now lives, perhaps, to sting us all! You do not know this man" continued he with the same incoherent eagerness, and impetuously silencing Conrad, who would have spoken—"I do, I believe him to be mean, sordid, deceitful! You will conceive yourself safe because you are young and brave! Learn, however, from the two instances before you, none are so secure but subtlety or desperation may reach them! Stralenheim, in the palace of a Prince was in my power! My knife was held over him! a single moment would have swept him from the face of the earth, and with him all my future fears; I forbore, and I am now in his;—Are you certain that you are not so too? Who assures you that he does not know you? Who tells you that he has not lured you into his society, either to rid himself of you for ever, or to plunge you with your family into a dungeon?—*Me*—it is plain, he has known invariably through every change of fortune or of name, and why not you? *Me*, he has entrapt—Are you more discreet? He has wound the snares of Idenstein around me: of a reptile, whom a few years ago, I would have spurned from my presence, and whom, in spurning now, I have furnished with fresh venom: Will you be more patient? Conrad, Conrad, there are crimes rendered venial by the occasion, and temptations too exquisite for human fortitude to master, or endure."

The Count passionately struck his hand on his forehead as he spoke, and rushed out of the room.

### LORD BYRON'S WERNER.

WERNER.

Ulric, before you dare despise your father,  
Learn to divine and judge his actions. Young,  
Rash, new to life, and reared in luxury's lap,  
Is it for you to measure passion's force,  
Or misery's temptation! Wait—(not long,  
It cometh like the Night, and quickly)—Wait!—  
Wait till, like me, your hopes are blighted—till  
Sorrow and shame are handmaids of your cabin;  
Famine and poverty your guests at table;  
Despair your bed-fellow—then rise, but not  
From sleep, and judge! Should that day e'er arrive—  
Should you see then the serpent, who hath coiled  
Himself round all that is dear and noble  
Of you and yours, lie alumbering in your path,  
With but his folds between your steps and happiness,  
When he, who lives but to tear from your name,  
Lands, life itself, lies at your mercy, with  
Chance your conductor; midnight for your mantle;  
The bare knife in your hand, and earth asleep,  
Even to your deadliest foe; and he as't were  
Inviting death, by looking like it, while  
His death alone can save you:—Thank your God!  
If then like me, content with petty plunder,  
You turn aside—I did so,

ULRIC.

But—

WERNER (*abruptly*).

Hear me!

I will not brook a human voice—scarce dare  
Listen to my own (if that be human still)—  
Hear me! you do not know this man—I do.  
He's mean, deceitful, avaricious. You  
Deem yourself safe, as young and brave; but learn  
None are secure from desperation, few  
From subtlety. My worst foe, Stralenheim,  
Housed in a prince's palace, couch'd within  
A prince's chamber, lay below my knife!  
An instant—a mere motion—the least impulse—  
Had swept him and all fears of mine from earth.  
He was within my power—my knife was raised—  
Withdrawn—and I'm in his!—are you not so?  
Who tells you that he knows you not? Who says  
He hath not lured you here to end you? or  
To plunge you, with your parents, in a dungeon?

[*He pauses.*]

ULRIC.

Proceed—proceed!

WERNER.

*Me* he hath ever known,  
And hunted through each change of time—name—fortune—  
And why not you? Are you more versed in men?  
He wound snares round me; sang along my path  
Reptiles, whom, in my youth, I would have spurn'd  
Even from my presence; but in spurning now,  
Fill only with fresh venom. Will you be  
More patient? Ulric!—Ulric!—there are crimes  
Made venial by the occasion, and temptations  
Which Nature cannot master or forbear.  
ULRIC looks first at him, and then at JOSEPHINE.  
My mother!

### HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA, THIS-DAY.

	N.	N.
Morning.....	6	14
Evening.....	6	39
Moon's Age.....	19 Days	



## Improvements in Conveyance.

Sir,

To the Editor of the Journal.

Perusing your JOURNAL of the 23d instant, as I usually do, an interesting suggestion by A TRAVELLER regarding the improvement in the conveyance of Dawks, attracted my attention;—being myself an Old Traveller, through most parts of the country, it strikes me that the expense may be much reduced, and upon more equitable plans, which I subjoin, and leave to your choice to insert. After admiring the utility of the Plan of Suspension Bridges, and the idea of substituting Post Boys on Horses (or rather Tattoos, a much cheaper animal); I would recommend, under the circumstances of our Government having the controul of every Collector and Magistrate throughout India, that every private Zameendar, (in five miles line distance), in each village, be authorised to collect from every inferior Zameendar, in proportion to their number, the value for them every six months; and that every Zameendar supply a proportionate quantity of food for their support twice in each month; also that every Magistrate be authorized to enforce the Plan, whilst in necessitous cases the Collector of the District might be directed to immediately grant a sufficient sum for the purchase of two Tattoos. I do not mean that the cost of the Tattoos should fall on the Zameendar, but that he should be allowed the amount cost from the Collector on closing his accounts, and that every landholder should supply a certain quantity of food for the animal, which might be left to the management of each respective Native Dawk Officer; all which would not only compensate by the facility, but improve the commercial intercourse throughout the country.

SOMNUS.

## Serpents—Idolatry—Rice.

Sir,

To the Editor of the Journal.

U. V. W. seems to forget in his remark, that "there are serpents of different colours," that there are also metals of various hues. Yet all metallic bodies agree, in one particular, their brilliancy, or metallic lustre, which is also characteristic of snakes of every species. Hence those animals have an analogy, to brass in "the glistening metallic lustre of their colour." But your correspondent proceeds;—"The various branches of the root NAKUSH, vary accordingly as they are applicable to things signified, and are always written in conformity to the idea intended to be given, as to deceive, seduce," &c. Now, Sir, I apprehend these meanings will be allowed to corroborate the remark offered in my former letter, that the root is to be sought in the verb. *Naka, Duxit, Adduxit, Abduxit*, &c. and applied to the Serpent because he was the first leader of man into Evil. The word *Nakush* is therefore not a root, but obviously a compound of *Naka Aesh*, shortly *Nakush*, importing the leader, or rather deceiver and misleader of man. But brass may be termed *fictitious gold*, whence it stands in the same relation to that metal, which falsehood bears to TRUTH; that is, brass is typically contrasted with gold, in the same manner, that idolatry is known to be opposite to the true Religion and Word of God. Accordingly *Nakanuth*, as employed in Scripture, not only implies brass, but alludes likewise to idolatry, and its Author "the Father of lies;" who is the *Naka-Aesh* the leader or deceiver of men.

The Arabic couplet adduced by your Correspondent appears to be entirely mythological, and refers to the *Sesha Nag* of Hindoos, the *Python* of the Greeks, and *Dragon* of other idolaters; which are perverted copies of the *Nakush* of Scripture, who is certainly "the most malignant of serpents."

With feelings I shall not attempt to describe, I have perused your remarks relative to the mortality on board the Portuguese ship *CARM* without knowledge of the circumstances which had occurred, and from the mere description of the symptoms, I pronounced, in a recent number of the HURKARD, the calamity to have been occasioned by unwholesome Rice. This opinion, it appears, is completely verified;—and struck with awe

in the contemplation of the mysterious ways of ALMIGHTY God, and penetrated with feelings of the most solemn gratitude to HIM, I have at length the felicity of seeing published to the world the consummating of my labours, in the occurrence of a case, under the very eyes of my opponents, and whilst myself am in Calcutta, which no sophistry can evade, and which undeniably establishes the so long-defamed *Oryzean* system. Great is my triumph, and I proudly own it.

Your obedient Servant,

April 26, 1823

R. TYTLER.

## Primitive Language.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

I am not much of a dab at PHIL. or at any other kind of OLOGY, and willingly leave such things to Dr. TYTLER, to U. V. W., and to TALES.

But I should be the humble-cum-dumble of the latter, if he would instruct an ignoramus, whether the first of men could, in his opinion, talk any language at all, at the time of his creation,—or say, when he got a companion to talk to?—and, in that case, (I mean, supposing he was gifted with the power of speech), what reason there may be to doubt, that Hebrew was the language in which Adam and Eve conversed?

Your obsequious Servant,

April 25, 1823.

POP THE QUESTION

## Artificial Wax Candles.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

Your Correspondent SCRIBLERUS points out the looseness and incorrectness of the style of my notice, respecting the Honey bush and the Vegetable Wax Candles of the Cape of Good Hope. I did not mean that it should bear the construction, which he has put upon it rather forcibly,—perhaps Dr. TYTLER's letter on the same subject, exactly explained, what I intended to represent.

April 26, 1823.

VAN.

## Genuine Anecdote.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

As there appears to be a great difference of opinion, regarding the existence of such an animal as the Mermaid; I send you an Anecdote, which may be considered to throw some light on the subject.

It came into my hands quite by accident, and I do not believe appears among the compilations of the Miller's, Percy's, or any other collectors.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.

MUNCHAUSEN.

## ANECDOTE.

In the Coffee-room at the Bush Tavern, Bristol, the conversation of the company touched on the subject respecting the real or imaginary, existence of Mermaids, when one of the party declared in favour of the affirmative. "Oh! real beyond all doubt; I have seen seven or more at one time, the most beautiful creatures I ever beheld, with long black hair, and their young ones sneaking at their breasts." The worthy and facetious host of the Bush replied, "Sir, Captain ———, of the ———, informed me that one Sunday morning a merman had suddenly appeared to his men, dressed in gay attire, with his hair frizzled and powdered as white as a full grown eagleflower, and demanded to know if their captain was on board. The captain soon appeared on deck. The merman addressed him as follows:—"Sir, I shall feel particularly obliged by your giving orders for your anchor to be taken up, it lays against my street door, and prevents my family from going to church."

**Madras April 15, 1823.**—The long expected Ship *WOODFORD*, Captain Chapman, has at length arrived—after having experienced an unusually long passage even for this season of the year. She anchored in the Roadstead late on Saturday, and as we had already in a late number noticed her safe arrival at the Cape and published a list of her Passengers, we did not deem it necessary to issue an EXTRA to announce her arrival.

She met with unusually stormy and boisterous weather, encountered dangers and difficulties that required the greatest Nautical skill and perseverance to overcome. A very large array of Correspondence was received by the *WOODFORD*, but no public intelligence which we did not know before.

We have since heard that in Tirhoot and other districts in Bengal the Indigo crop has failed.

His Majesty's Ships *TEES*, Captain Coe, and *SOPHIE*, Captain French, anchored in the Roads on Friday evening—having left Trincomalee on Wednesday. The *ALLIGATOR* had not then arrived in Port. The *SOPHIE* will remain here we believe for that Vessel—her first Lieutenant having been appointed Commander of the *SOPHIE*.

The *SOPHIE* captured a Piratical Vessel in the Persian Gulph.

The *TEES*, with the *COCHIN* Schooner, will sail in a day or two to *BLACKWOOD*'s harbour for the purpose of taking a correct survey of that place—we trust therefore that the valuable discovery of the *LEANDER* will not be neglected. Hitherto nothing has been done towards making it a convenient refuge for Ships overtaken with bad weather on the coast. When the survey has been completed, the *TEES* will proceed to New South Wales.

His Majesty's Ship *DAUNTLESS* is to be despatched for England as soon as the *ALLIGATOR* arrives at Trincomalee.

The *COMMONORE* is going to Penang in the *LIFVEY*, and will probably re-visit Madras in the month of July.

The *ALLIGATOR* was 14 weeks on her passage from the Cape to Bombay.—She experienced nothing but light winds and calms, and the currents were so strongly adverse, that she crossed the Equator nearly a thousand miles to leeward of the longitude fixed upon for that purpose.

It is understood that a considerable re-inforcement of the Squadron in the Indian Seas will shortly take place.

The Country Ship *JULIANA* came in yesterday—she left Port Louis on the 25th of January, and brings no news.

**Passengers.**—Mrs. Cathro, Mrs. Bonnafe, and Mr. Bonnafe.

The *WOODFORD* and *ALAX* will sail for Bengal—the latter in a day or two, the former next week.

**Supreme Court.**—The second LAW TERM for the current year terminated on Thursday last. The Quarter Sessions commence on Monday next. We hear there are about seventeen cases already sent down for trial, and more may yet come in.

Letters from Rio Janeiro received in England mention that the Press at Rio enjoyed the most perfect freedom.—The number of Newspapers in circulation had increased from two to twelve weekly.—The Prime Minister under the new Government, Jose Bonifaci, is deemed a second Franklin and greatly beloved by the Brazilians.—The Trial by Jury has been established, and the Editor of one of the Papers had been tried for a libel on the Prince and acquitted.—*Mad. Gaz.*

**Excursion for Health.**—We have often doubted the propriety of sending persons in debilitated health on board of a Pilot Schooner to be tossed to and fro at the Stand heads. Yet we hardly know what otherwise is to be done in these cases, unless, indeed, valetudinarians could be conveniently sent to Pooree (Jaggernanth) or the Nellorey hills. Both these places, however, are too distant from Calcutta to be available in urgent cases. Where a person is sent to the Sand-heads for his health, it must be for one of two things, or both,—the sea air, and the motion. In many cases the motion is by far too violent. In a shore station again, one may have the sea air, and all the various necessities of life only to be got on land; and if the exercise of sailing is requisite, it may be taken in a boat, provided the weather answer.

There is a place on the sea coast, not far from Hidgelee, called Barcool, which 30 or 40 years ago, was reckoned, we believe, the Brighton of Calcutta. There were formerly many Bungalows there, and the place was indeed a considerable station, but now it is deserted and desolate, only one bungalow remains standing; and it is rather remarkable that it is rather remarkable that it should have escaped the general wreck, in memory as it were of its former proprietor, the great and the good WARREN HASTINGS. The reflexions which one naturally feels in such a spot must be of a solemn and affecting character. The place itself, we understand, is capable of being made a most delightful spot. Nature has done much for it already. A friend of ours who lately visited it, describes the beach as firm and smooth. A carriage might drive upon it for miles close to the open sea. The sea breeze is so

refreshingly cool that one need scarcely put on light clothing. Surely were a few public-spirited individuals to combine, this Barcool might be made a most agreeable and a salutary resort for Invalids? We merely throw out the hint, in the hope that some person who may be better acquainted with the capabilities of the place, and the nature of its climate, may favor us with further particulars for public information. The place, we learn, had the character of being unhealthy; if this was the case, we imagine it could have been so only in the rainy season. In the hot months we have not a doubt but it would be found a most eligible place for enjoying sea air and sea bathing. Should the bather, however, venture into the open sea, it must be at the peril of sharks.

**Climate of the Nellorey Mountains.**—We have seen a late communication from the Nellorey Hills. The climate is described as delightful. Underneath is a short Meteorological Table of the temperature, as indicated for a few days by the Thermometer. Cool as the medium temperature may appear to the Bengal reader, it is, we understand, ten degrees hotter than it was last season.

1823.	MORNING				NOON.	AFTERNOON		EVENING.	
April	6 in the Pondall.	6 in the Air.	9 in the Pondall.	9 in the Sun.	6 in the Pondall.	6 in the Air.	9 in the Pondall.	9 in the Sun.	6 in the Air.
1st, .....	54	47	53½	66	61	69	60	65	63
2d, .....	55	49	59½	69	62	70	61	64	58
3d, .....	51	45	0	0	0	76	0	0	0
4th, .....	0	53	61	70	71	78	72	76	67
5th, .....	0	56	66	72	71	74	0	0	0

We learn from Bhangulpore, that fires continued to take place in the Bazar. The native haymakers or grass cutters, it was suspected, set fire to the huts on purpose to create a demand for their hay, of which, it appears, they had a considerable quantity on hand.—*India Gaz.*

• Pandall—the Verandah.

### Appointment of Writers:

To the Editor of the Madras Courier.

SIR,

In the East India Register published by authority on the 14th August, 1823, I observe that several gentlemen are at Hertford College, nominated as Writers in the Company's Civil Service on the Madras Establishment.

As they have relations in India, I send you a list of their names.

W. Flint, J. Timbrell, J. E. Watts, J. Walker, Henry Morris, G. H. Pitt, H. C. Montgomery, H. T. Diemerque, A. J. Cherry, J. W. Alexander, W. A. Moorhead, C. W. Truscott, H. V. Conolly, Abel Mellor, R. Gardner, S. Crawford, E. B. Thomas, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, C. Bury, J. C. Brown, A. Hornby D. Reid, W. E. Lockhart, W. Douglas, G. Alexander, and Thomas J. W. Thomas.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

Calcut, Malabar, March 29, 1823.

A SUBSCRIBER.

### New Wesleyan Chapel.

To the Editor of the Madras Courier.

SIR,

I beg leave to enclose to you, a brief notice of the opening of a new place for Divine Worship at Trincomalee; and you will oblige me, by allowing it to appear, among the miscellaneous paragraphs of your paper.

Which will oblige, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Trincomalee, March 25, 1823

On Sunday, the 23d instant the Wesleyan new Chapel at Trincomalee, was opened for Divine Service.

The Services appointed for the occasion, were conducted by the Missionaries, in the English, the Portuguese, and the Tamil languages; and much interest was excited. The building is in a central situation, and has cost Eighteen thousand Rix Dollars; towards this sum, between Six and Seven thousand Rix Dollars have been contributed by a liberal and generous public; for which, the Missionaries desire to make a grateful and public acknowledgment.

Any further subscriptions will be thankfully received at the Mission house at Trincomalee, Colombo, and other Mission stations in Ceylon; and at Madras.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—813—

## Auxiliary Bible Society Report.

We have heartfelt pleasure in submitting to the Christian Public, the TWELFTH REPORT of the CALCUTTA AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY: and congratulate the friends of the BIBLE, that the philanthropic work of translating, printing, and circulating, among all classes, castes, and sects of the Indian community, the Holy Scriptures, is proceeding with unabated ardour. How truly proud must the Christian and the Briton feel, when he contemplates the Association formed, not yet a quarter of a century ago, in his native land, already, like the Tree of Life, extending its healing branches over the habitations of men throughout the whole earth.

### TWELFTH REPORT OF THE CALCUTTA AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

The year which has elapsed since our last Meeting will be long distinguished in the records of this Society, not for any new plans of usefulness, or new efforts in the department of translation, but for its progress in executive efficiency. This has been acquired by the establishment of the Calcutta Bible Association in the month of June last, an event which from the acquisition gained thereby to the general cause, naturally occupies the most prominent place in the proceedings of your Committee, and claims the precedence in their report. It is not easy to estimate at present the full importance of that institution. Judging from the spirit and energy with which its first measures have been marked, there is the strongest reason for congratulation on account of what has been already accomplished, and of hope respecting the future.

As this is the first Association of the kind, at the Presidency of Bengal, and many of the distant subscribers to the Society may not have had their attention drawn to the nature of Bible Associations, as distinguished from those which are called *Auxiliary Societies*, the Committee conceive that it may be satisfactory to point out here somewhat in detail, their distinct line of operation; more especially as an idea has been entertained that wherever an Auxiliary Society was formed, any other Association for the distribution of the Scriptures was quite unnecessary. In point of fact, the general object of both is the same, namely, the dissemination of the word of God, and the difference between them is this, that the one is general and extensive, the other partial and local. The Association is limited to its place; the Auxiliary extends over a large district: or more properly the Association is supplementary to the Auxiliary, in the place where it is established. Its utility was suggested by experience. In proportion as Auxiliary Societies prevailed, it became necessary, in order to secure every advantage, and render their operations commensurate with the field of labour, to call in the aid of bodies formed for the express purpose of local co-operation. It was found impossible to reach a large portion of the community, without some new agents who should undertake the detail of minute inspection. Auxiliary Societies, occupied by their general and comprehensive objects, could neither search out individual wants, nor adequately collect and embody the exertions of the community. It was evident that many persons possessed the means of aiding the cause, who from the smallness of their contributions, could not insert their names in the list of the Auxiliary; that many too might wish to obtain copies of the Scriptures, who for want of assisting friends knew not how to make the necessary application; and it became the followers of Him who "came to seek and to save that which was lost," to seek out the wretched and needy, to rouse the careless, to excite the indolent, to elicit the zeal of the poorest, as far as might be practicable, in a competition of benevolent activity for the welfare of their fellow-creatures.

Bible Associations were formed then for these important objects, and by the efficiency imparted through them to their Auxiliaries, have been found productive of the most essential benefits to the cause. Their walk is humble and self-denying. It is their province to solicit the contributions of the poor, to aid the exertions of all who are willing in any degree to assist themselves, and as far as possible to ascertain and supply the wants of the population. In order to this, the place is divided into districts, and the Committee taking these districts under their charge, each member engages as far as his leisure and health may admit, to visit the inhabitants in person, to make enquiries into and supply the exigencies of his own district. Whilst therefore the Auxiliary in its more enlarged sphere, chiefly aims at the procuring and distributing of the Scriptures, in reference to the applications of subscribers, the Association searches out its objects, contributes to the funds of its Auxiliary by the collection of small subscriptions, and greatly promotes its usefulness by the sale of books.

It is obvious that such an institution, well conducted, must materially strengthen the hands of the Auxiliary, and be a valuable acquisition to

the place. Your Committee have witnessed, therefore, with lively satisfaction the rise and progress of the Calcutta Bible Association; and they have great pleasure in reporting that its success has far exceeded their expectation. At the close of the year, nearly eight months after its establishment, the sums collected in aid of the Bible-cause amounted to Sixty Rupees 5.907; a result which could never have been effected without the most active attention of the Committee to their laborious duties. This has been substantiated further by the long list of small donations annexed to the report, which was read at their last General Meeting. It was evident from that interesting document, that the peculiar features of a Bible Association, had been kept in view, by a patient following up of district-labour. It is by such labours alone that the wants of the population, can be adequately supplied, or their zeal embodied. The more faithfully that system is adhered to, the more extensively will men be brought to know, and to value the Bible. To every reflecting mind, however, this must appear to be no easy task; especially considering the state of Society in this place, where from the prejudices to be overcome, and the diversity of classes and languages, it must be peculiarly arduous. To support the district-system with effect, requires a combination of faith and patience, with the meekness of wisdom, and ardour of love. It angers well for the advancement of religion amongst us, when a body of persons can be found, willing to undertake this truly Christian labour. That the Calcutta Association should have not only entered on this undertaking, but have so efficiently held on its course, is therefore honourable to the persons concerned, and must afford the liveliest satisfaction to all who favour the cause.

As the report of this new institution will be soon published, which will contain a full account of what has been accomplished, it is unnecessary to advert to its proceedings in this place. The Committee cannot however refrain from offering a few remarks illustrative of the character and utility of Bible Associations suggested by the experience recently acquired.

In every attempt to meet the exigencies of a large mass of people, time and patience are required, in order to give effect to the measures adopted, and a considerable interval must have elapsed, before it can be affirmed that the object has been adequately accomplished. When therefore your Committee observed in their last report, that "all persons in Calcutta who desired to possess copies of the Scriptures were supplied, and that the Society had in this respect advanced far towards the accomplishment of its object," this remark could only have been made on a general view of the subject, such a view as they could then take, before the sphere of labour had been searched and examined with the accuracy of the district system.

The Committee have peculiar pleasure in reporting that the result of this examination has established their conclusion. The Rev. Dr. Schmid, who, in his double capacity of Bible Secretary, and Visitor in a populous district, has been a most active member of the new Institution, writes thus to one of the Secretaries, "The experience of eight months has proved that those professing Christians to whom the English language is familiar, are, with very few exceptions, sufficiently provided with the Holy Scriptures. Though a great part of the inhabitants of my district are poor, and though I have visited all of them, yet I have found only three persons capable of reading English, who confessed that they had no Bible whatever in their possession. It is therefore not so much among the descendants of Britons, as among the Portuguese and others, and among Hindoos and Mahomedans that the Association will be useful, as it respects its principal object, the distribution of the Scriptures. Nevertheless we have disposed of 61 English Bibles and 61 English Testaments, and the greater number of these by sale."

Such a testimony as this, drawn from experience, is very satisfactory. It will be hailed by all who are interested in the progress of Bible Societies. Your Committee cannot reflect on the existing abundance of the Scriptures without sentiments of the deepest thankfulness to divine providence. Let our prayers be offered up that the good seed thus scattered may produce a rich harvest of righteousness and peace.

It is pleasing to reflect also that important effects have been produced amongst other classes of Christians, to whose welfare the labours of the Society have been long directed. In the course of last year, a new supply of 500 Portuguese Bibles has been received from the British and Foreign Bible Society. It will be recollected that considerable obstacles have impeded the free circulation of the Scriptures in that language. The version was objected to as not being altogether suited to the taste of the people for whom it was intended, and on this ground very few copies of the version formerly in the depository have been distributed. The new edition, however, received from home, being the version of a Roman Catholic, and of acknowledged authenticity in that church, has proved more acceptable. Many copies have been sent in circulation, and some respectable members of that communion have favourably met the wishes of the Association committee, and pledged themselves to promote the distribution of the Portuguese Scriptures to the best

of their ability. This is a great point gained; one for which the Society has felt no small solicitude. It was long a subject of regret that the stores in their depository were not available; and now that the Scriptures have found a ready entrance, they entertain a good hope that the demand for them will increase; and that the sacred stream will flow with accelerating speed, and make glad the people.

Some good progress has also been made in the Armenian department; many copies of the Scriptures in that language having been distributed during the year. The Committee rejoice in the hope that their labours for that interesting class of fellow-Christians, will be productive of good. Several members of that body have been induced to co-operate in the Bible cause; the zeal of others has been rekindled; and it ought to be especially recorded, that one individual was so greatly moved by the report of the proceedings at the last General Meeting of the Association, that he sent on the following day a donation of 500 Rupees, in furtherance of the cause, declaring his readiness to promote to the utmost an undertaking so truly great and beneficial.

It ought also to be mentioned that a number of Natives have become subscribers to the Society, and purchasers of Bibles in English and Bengalee; for your Committee deem it to be of some importance to have weakened the prejudices known to exist amongst the Natives, against paying any thing for spiritual instruction, and for books conveying such instruction.

But the chief advantage of the Bible Association is to be viewed in its influence on the professors of Christianity in Calcutta and its environs. Mr. Schmid in his letter already quoted offers the following just and encouraging remarks: "The very circumstance of being called upon to contribute to the Bible Society, cannot but make a favourable impression upon many; and a visiting collector who is really desirous of benefiting his fellow-men has many important opportunities of speaking to those whom he visits on the value of the Bible, and the duty of perusing it with diligence. I am persuaded that if we could succeed in finding a sufficient number of pious, judicious and zealous collectors, our Association would supply a great existing deficiency in this place. We have more than a sufficient number of places of worship where professing Christians may hear the Gospel preached, but there are no adequate measures taken to induce them to attend. There is abundance of pasture for the sheep, but the sheep are going astray in the wilderness, and must be sought after, and brought to partake of the pasture provided for them. This great desideratum will in the course of time, I confidently expect, be supplied by our Association, and I cannot but believe that it will prove ere long a great blessing to this populous city."

Your Committee are persuaded that these remarks will be heard with great interest, and adverting to the magnitude of the population concerned, they feel assured that they will not be considered, as having given a disproportionate attention in this report, to the character and operations of an Association whose object is the advancement of religion, by supplying that species of charitable labour which was wanting.

A commencement having been made in the capital, it was reasonable to hope that similar exertions would follow in other places. The Committee have the satisfaction to announce that a Bible Association has been recently formed at Benares, under the auspices of Mr. Brook. The list of contributions exhibits a sum of 1000 Sicca Rupees in donations, and 500 Sicca Rupees in yearly subscriptions. This is an important accession. The example of so large a station is in itself of considerable value. From thence as from a centre, it will attract the notice of other minor stations at a distance, and thus form a co-operating body of no small influence. Copies of their proceedings had been forwarded to Cawnpore and Meerut, which induces the hope that no long time will elapse before each of those large and important stations shall be supplied with its own local institution.

Your Committee now proceed to notice the progress of their own more immediate affairs during the last year.

The Malay Scriptures which were mentioned as having been forwarded to the Reverend Mr. Hutchings's care, have been all safely received, and deposited by that gentleman in a room set apart for the purpose. Mr. Hutchings has taken charge of these precious stores with the same zeal in the cause for which he has been so long conspicuous. "The Committee may depend," he says in a letter to the Secretary, on my taking every care for the preservation of the valuable and numerous copies of Bibles and Testaments which they have entrusted to my charge. I have made a large room solely for their reception, and find that the books are in very good order. Your present supply of 73 cases added to those which I possessed before, will make an extensive depository of the Scriptures. I heartily wish the demand for them may be as abundant as the supply." The Committee are deeply sensible of their obligations to Mr. Hutchings, for the attention bestowed on their concerns from the beginning, and have already recorded the expression of their warm thanks for his zeal and disinterestedness in the cause. It affords them great satisfaction to know that the stores, upon the preparation of which so

large a portion of their funds has been employed, are now under the care of one who can so well appreciate them, and who from his situation possesses such excellent means and opportunities for using them to the best advantage. The letter which communicated the safe arrival of the Malay Scriptures was accompanied by two very interesting papers written by Mr. Hutchings for the purpose of casting light on the early history of the Malay translation, and also explaining his own views of the revision in which he had been himself so long occupied.

The former of the papers abovementioned contains an account of the principles adopted by Mr. Hutchings in the late revision. His leading aim was to make as few alterations as possible in the original Dutch edition prepared at Batavia, and when alterations were absolutely necessary, he was guided in the use and meaning of phrases by a comparison of the Dutch translators with themselves, carefully examining the parallel texts as he proceeded. "In the prosecution of this plan" he says, "every assistance of books was furnished from the Translator's library. Commentators, Lexicons, the London Polyglot, and versions of the Bible into modern languages were always consulted with great attention, and in any difficulty which these books could not remove, I had recourse to the kind assistance of one who had long employed his abilities in Biblical labour. Under these circumstances therefore I may humbly trust that something has been done to render the Malayan Scriptures more intelligible to Malayan readers, without detracting by an attempt at plainness from the correctness, learning, or other excellencies of the original work." The pious diligence and scrupulous fidelity with which the original work was prepared, have been already established by the interesting memoir which appeared on the subject in the Appendix to the third report of this Society. It is impossible to peruse that article without entertaining sentiments of admiration for the translators, and forming a high opinion of a production which had been the offspring of so much cautious labour. Mr. Hutchings, in order to render the history of the Malay translation complete, has furnished your Committee in the second paper, with an account of what had been attempted antecedently to that work, extracted from the preface of a Malay version printed at Oxford in 1677. The preface was written by Thomas Marshall, of Lincoln College, Oxford, and the book itself has a dedication from the pen of the learned orientalist Hyde to the celebrated philosopher Boyle, under whose patronage the work was published. Unacquainted themselves with the Malay language, they will only remark that Mr. Hutchings's cautious deference to the judgement of the Dutch translators, a deference in which he was more confirmed, in proportion as he became more acquainted with the language, appears to them highly creditable. They quote with pleasure the following judicious observations: "Had I presumed to rely upon my own solitary judgement in opposition to the united opinion of the translators, I had probably ventured on several minor alterations. Hebraisms appeared to be sometimes retained, when I imagined the passage might without injury have had the Malayan idiom; and not only in such instances, but in various other cases, my own opinion might differ from the translators. But if a dozen of the best Malayan and Biblical scholars were each to prepare their own version, in what a multitude of particulars would they all differ from each other! The work of translating is therefore best done by united labour. 'In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.' I am for these reasons induced to believe that when this edition is examined by Malayan scholars, each one may find many things which may not accord with his own opinion; but I may confidently say from my own experience that the more he examines, and accurately studies the work of the Malayan translators, the more confidence will be placed in their judgment."

It appeared important to your Committee, whilst they are bringing their concerns in the Malay department to a close, that the views and sentiments of Mr. Hutchings should be fairly stated. They feel confident that the above quotation will commend itself to all considerate persons. Whoever seriously attempts to transfer new ideas and new modes of reasoning into a foreign language like that of the Malays, amongst whom knowledge and civilisation are at so low an ebb, will soon discover that he has undertaken a work of the most arduous and intricate nature; and he will learn the necessity of guarding against first impressions, of carefully weighing objections which arise out of a limited and short acquaintance with the language, and of not hastily rejecting the authority of those learned men who have preceded him in the same course of labour. Every difficulty is augmented when the subjects treated of are sacred. In preparing versions of those Scriptures which are written by inspiration of God, for the all-important purpose of making men wise unto salvation, the necessity of caution is increased a thousand-fold. Even where the grand requisite is secured, by fidelity of the rendering, it is of the utmost importance to guard against other dangers of an opposite kind: great caution must be used in avoiding inflation of style on the one hand, and vulgarity on the other; that effectlessness which makes language obscure to the illiterate, and that poverty which makes it of little value to the educated.



Your Committee deeply feel the justice of these remarks, whilst they proceed to report their first publication in the Hindostanee language. The translation of the Old Testament into Hindostanee, which advanced as mentioned in their last report to the end of Genesis, has now passed through the five books of Moses. The Pentateuch in 8vo. has been recently sent from the press, and is now in a course of distribution. Your Committee fervently hope that this edition of the first volume of the Old Testament, now for the first time published in the Oordoo style, will be found extensively useful. Those who are most familiarly acquainted with the Hindostanee language, can best appreciate the arduousness of this work. At the first mention of this version, the public was informed that the basis had been laid in a translation for the English by Mirza Fitrat, the same person who assisted the late Mr. Martyn in his Hindostanee studies, and in his translation of the New Testament. The style therefore will be found similar to that which has already proved so generally acceptable. The business of the editors has consisted in carefully revising the basis thus prepared to their hands, comparing it with the original Hebrew, and labouring to unite perspicuity with fidelity in the work. But it will be readily perceived by those who understand the language, that it is far from being as easy task to invest the Scriptures in an Oordoo dress. Such an attempt is perhaps more difficult in this than in any other language, because of its being so generally and familiarly spoken. The habit of using certain words and phrases in the intercourse of common life, with the lowest domestics, on the most trivial occasions, attaches to them a sort of groveling character, which in many instances does not really belong to them. It is not easy in such circumstances to separate the base from the pure metal, to distinguish what is precious in the currency from what is vile. Judging from the abuse of language in common life, and guided by our own limited knowledge, we condemn often those expressions as vulgar which are spoken in the most polished society; and thus it not unfrequently happens that mere novices in the language will censure and correct that which has the sanction of the best writer and judges. Perhaps there is nothing more difficult than to guard against those erroneous judgments which arise out of a scanty acquaintance with a language, especially such an acquaintance as is confined to the familiar use of it in common life. It should also be considered that where there a great paucity of standard works on subjects peculiarly sacred, or rather no such work at all, many terms must be borrowed from sister dialects, many new words introduced, and phrases invented in describing things unknown, which most of necessity give an air of uncouthness to the style, with whatever care the labour be conducted. The volume just published abounds with instances of this nature, as will be manifest to those who reflect on the contents of Exodus and Leviticus. The phrases connected with the building of the Tabernacle, and with the Jewish ritual, do not admit of a graceful rendering into the Oordoo. It is hoped however that the Hindostanee Pentateuch, having been corrected with the assistance of learned Natives, will be found as accurate and as calculated for general use as could reasonably be expected in a first attempt.

After advancing to the book of Joshua, the editors not having sufficient manuscript to keep the press employed in the Old Testament, have passed on to the printing of the New Testament. This, without occasioning any eventual delay in the printing of the Bible, will afford ample time for the preparing of the copy. The Committee, in advertising to this part of the work, have here to acknowledge their high sense of the services of the Rev. W. H. Mill, principal of Bishop's College. That gentleman, after his return to Calcutta, obligingly undertook to bear his part in revising the proofs of the New Testament, and from his thorough acquaintance with the original, as well as known critical acumen, the Committee confidently anticipate most important accessions to the accuracy of the edition. In this part of the work, the printer has nearly completed the two first Gospels. As soon as the New Testament shall have passed through the press, it is expected that a sufficient quantity of copy will be prepared to allow of proceeding with the larger work without further interruption.

Mr. Bowley's New Testament in Hindwee, noticed in a former report, has advanced in its progress through the press to the Epistle of Philippians. The completion of this work has been unusually protracted from the circumstance that the proofs are sent to Chunar, where Mr. Bowley resides, for Correction and final revision.

At an early period in the last year, the Committee resolved on a new edition of the New Testament in Bengalee, Persian, and Arabic. The first only of these has been actually sent to press, after undergoing a careful revision by the Committee of Translations. The Gospel of St. Matthew will soon be completed, and available for the schools.

Your Committee adverted in the last report to the dissolution of the late Corresponding Committee of the Parent Society, and in reference to certain private communications had said that it might be considered as officially sanctioned from home. The truth of that conclusion has been lately placed beyond all doubt, by the receipt of the Rev. Mr. Owen's long expected letter communicating the Parent Institution's entire approbation of the measure. All the necessary arrangements having been completed before the arrival of Mr. Owen's letter, no new proceeding was required, in order to give full effect to the alteration.

Amongst the proceedings of the year, your Committee would not omit to mention a communication from the late highly respected and lamented Bishop of Calcutta. Soon after it was known that the British and Foreign Bible Society had voted to Bishop's College a grant of £5000, (to be received through the Committee here) for the special purpose of encouraging and providing for translations of the Holy Scriptures, the Rev. T. Robinson, Chaplain of Poonah, applied to his Lordship for his patronage of a projected translation of the Old Testament into the Persian language. The Bishop, entertaining some doubt whether the Persian language was comprehended in the grant, requested the opinion of your Committee, previous to his coming to final decision. After a careful attention to the terms of the grant, and a reference to the course of the Bible Society's operations ever since its attention was directed to India, your Committee could not hesitate to deliver it as their opinion, that the Persian language was one of those contemplated in the grant; and expressed their readiness to draw upon the Parent Society, at such times, and for such sums as the Bishop might judge expedient, according to the tenor of their instructions. They have reason to conclude that his Lordship, gave, in consequence, an encouraging reply to Mr. Robinson's application, and that the version is now in hand, though they are not particularly informed as to the actual state of Mr. Robinson's progress. From the acknowledged philological skill of that gentleman, and his extensive acquaintance with the Persian language, your Committee entertain the best hopes that (if his life and health be continued) he will supply an important desideratum; and they feel it to be an occasion for warm congratulation (in which they are assured the Society at large will concur) that so valuable a coadjutor had enlisted himself in the career of Biblical labour, countenanced and encouraged by the highest authority in the United Church.

Your Committee have no further remarks to offer on the proceeding of the year. These important operations continue, and will continue, it is hoped, without abatement, or rather with progressive activity. They must continue as long as the Depository shall be furnished with stores out of which to supply the demand for the Scriptures; and that Depository can never be unfurnished whilst the liberality of the public continues to be extended towards it, and Providence is pleased to smile on the Society's labour. A balance of 14,059 Sicca Rupees in favour of the Society remains in the Treasurer's hands. The Committee stand pledged to a far greater amount than this by the works they have undertaken; for which however (they doubt not) ample provision will be made by the contributions of succeeding years. They heartily congratulate the Society on the cheering prospect. A zeal has sprung up. New Associations are in activity. The cause is extending itself, and taking deeper root. They humbly commit themselves and their labours to God, with thankful acknowledgements of his past goodness, and fervent prayers for his continued presence and blessing.

### Irish Subscription.

#### Final adjustment of the Account.

Total Amount Subscriptions as per details published in the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, in succession to the 27th ultimo,..... 1,94,248 13 6

#### REMITTANCES.

Per Ship ADRIAN, .....	£7000	or Rs. 69,440
Ditto ASIA, .....	6000	59,760
Ditto DORSETSHIRE, ...	1974 5	20,374 4 2
Ditto BENGAL MERCHANT, .....	1320	13,500
Ditto WINCHELSEA, .....	1000	9900
Ditto LADY RAFFLES, .....	1000	9920
Ditto GENERAL HEWETT, .....	100	1000
Ditto LADY RAFFLES 2d remittance, ....	250	2500
Ditto HIBERNIA, .....	200	2000
Ditto GENERAL HEWETT, 2d remittance, ...	100	1000
Ditto MANGLES, .....	140	1400
Ditto RESOURCE, .....	29 8	294

£ 19,113 13 or S. R. 1,91,088 4 2

Balance, Sa. Rs. 3155 9 4

Deduct Balta in Exchange on Up Country Remittances, Subscriptions twice credited, losses by deaths, &c. &c. ....	218 9 10	
Subscriptions unrealized, .....	2036 15 6	3155 9 4

Calcutta, April 21, 1823.

B. ROBERTS, Treasurer.

MEM.—A List of the outstanding Subscriptions may be seen at any time on application to the Treasurer at the Office of Messrs. Mackintosh and Co. and such realizations as may hereafter be effected shall be reported as heretofore.

Spain.

(From the Madras Courier.)

Spread forth thy gloomy wings  
Angel of wrath,  
Shed thy dark shadowings  
Over the path  
Which the cold-hearted despots shall tread to enslave  
The land of the free and the fair and the brave.

Spaniards, Spaniards, to the battle!—  
Oh! when that cry of old  
From crag to crag did rattle,  
How the high-born and the bold  
Came dashing down from bower and hall,  
As though Pelayo's bugle call,  
Which bade Asturia's mountaineers  
Gird on their brands and grasp their spears,  
Summon'd them to a festival.

Spaniards, Spaniards, to the war!  
Does the valour that of old  
Defied the Moorish scimitar,  
Tamed the Abencarrago's pride,  
And scatter'd the Tegni squadrons wide,  
Beam less constant, or more cold?—  
Gleams the light of chivalry more pale  
Than it did in Canga's holy vale  
Or by Guadalquivir's tide?  
Oh no!—it cannot!—for a cause  
Like yours would warm the vilest thing  
That ever call'd a Tyrant—King.  
The veriest coward could not pause  
And hear that war cry roll, again,  
Like thunder o'er the battle plain,  
“God and Saint Jago! charge for Spain!”

And later days have proved how well  
Spain's hearts and hands can still make good  
Fortress or mountain solitude,  
From many a bloody hill and dell  
Napoleon's eagles wheel'd away  
Sullen and baffled of their prey  
Whilst ruffled plume and hurried flight  
Told the fortune of the fight.  
But the stubborn strife was fiercer yet  
When inch by inch, and day by day,  
His train'd Brigades scarce won their way  
Against the peasants of the land  
Who met them—fought them—hand to hand  
At the point of the bayonet.  
And cannot Saragossa tell  
This glorious truth?  
Aye proudly—and how age, and youth,  
And beauty, braved the bursting shell,  
The mine—the iron shower that fell  
And crush'd, but vanquish'd not, the brave,  
Who, true to Spain, found glory's grave  
In freedom's Citadel.

Whilst the tombs of those who perish'd  
Battling for their native land  
By grove or mountain torrent stand;  
Whilst the memory is cherish'd  
Of Girona's glorious fall,  
And of the gallant brotherhood  
Who died—as freedom's soldiers should  
On Tarragona's wall.  
While Cadix boasts her trophies torn  
From the beleaguering foe,  
And the peasant grasps the rifle borne  
At Baylen's overthrow  
Spain should never be subdued;  
But if her generous efforts fail  
And the leagued despots must prevail  
Be Saragossa's fight renew'd—  
Let them win—a bloody solitude.—

Spaniards, Spaniards, to the strife!  
And ye shall not strike in vain,  
Without freedom, what is life?  
'Tis a star that hath no beam  
'Tis a sad and sullen dream  
Win it then on the battle plain  
Or die—for Liberty and Spain.

Madras, April 7, 1823.

\* “War to the knife,” Palafox's answer to the French.

B. W.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
April 27	Carron	British	T McCarthy	Bombay	Mar. 14
28	Eliza	British	R Gibson	I. of France	Feb. 29

Stations of Vessels in the River.

CALCUTTA, APRIL 27, 1823.

At Diamond Harbour.—EXMOUTH, BARRETTO JUNIOR, and McCauley, (brig), outward bound, remain,—CARRON, and ELIZA, passed up.

New Anchorage.—H C. S. ROYAL GEORGE.

Passengers.

Passengers per Carron, from Bombay to Calcutta.—Mrs. Rutledge Mrs. Parry and Child, Sir Anthony Buller, Kt. Mr. Rutledge, Assistant Surgeon of His Majesty's 20th Regiment, Lieutenant Wall, of His Majesty's 24th Regiment, Mr. Brown, and 38 Volunteers, of His Majesty's 24th Regiment.

Administrations to Estates.

Mr. John Nunn, late of Calcutta, Sailor, deceased—James Weir Hogg, Esq.

Mr. Peter Watson, late of the Town of Calcutta, Head Assistant in the Accountant General's Office, deceased—Mr. David Mills, of Hare Street, Watch Maker, and Mr. David Henry Renny, of Lyon's Range, Merchant.

Captain Elias Vivian Dunsterville, late of Fennyghur, of the Honorable Company's Bengal Military Establishment, deceased—Mrs. Clara Dunsterville, widow.

Captain Richard Clements Walker, late of the Honorable Company's Bengal Military Establishment, deceased—Mrs. Eliza Howard Walker, widow.

Birth.

On the 22d instant, Mrs. URQUHART, of a Son.

Marriage.

At Sydney, by the Special License, at the Parish Church of St. John, Parramatta, by the Reverend SAMUEL MARSDEN, Principal Chaplain of the Territory. THOMAS WALKER, Esq. Deputy Assistant Commissary General to His Majesty's Forces, to AMIA ELIZABETH, second Daughter of JOHN BLAXLAND, Esq. of Newinton.

Deaths.

On the 26th instant, after a long and painful illness which he bore with Christian fortitude and resignation, Mr. THOMAS BOTELHO, aged 30 years and 26 days, one of the Principal Assistants in the Office of Messrs. ALEXANDER and Co. To attempt a faithful delineation of the many excellent qualities which adorned and characterized the deceased, would require more space than is usually allotted to Obituary Notices in the columns of a Newspaper. The large assemblage of Persons who attended at the mournful ceremony, is a sufficient proof that, as in life Mr. BOTELHO was respected, so in death he is regretted.

At Dacca, on the 20th instant, ARRATON MICHAEL, Esq. one of the most respectable Armenian Gentleman and opulent landholder, departed this life. He was a warm friend, a tender parent, and affectionate husband. He was kind and generous, and his purse was ever open to the needy and poor; the distressed and unfortunate never appealed to him ineffectually. He had the misfortune to lose his only surviving son three months ago. The bulk of his property is left by will to his disconsolate widow, with a considerable legacy to his daughter Mrs. Cacheek Sethagasee, and numerous other bequests. Messrs. Manook Collestan, Thorose Gregory, D. M. F. M. Beglar, and Johannes Cacheek, are the Executors named in his Will.

At Annandale, GEORGE JOHNSTON, Esq. after a severe but rather short indisposition. This Gentleman is well remembered by the oldest inhabitants, and very much respected in private life. As Lieutenant Colonel of the 102d Regiment (New South Wales Corps) his name will be handed down to posterity, blended with that of Australia; having assumed the reigns of administration, for a short interval, during the memorable colonial inter-regnum. A large family remain to deplore a fond parent's deprivation.

At Edinburgh, on the 18th of November, Mrs. ROBERTSON, wife of Lieutenant Colonel ROBERTSON, of the Honorable Company's Corps of Engineers, on this Establishment.